MAINE FARMER.

AGRICULTURE. MECHANIC ARTS. LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars, in Advance.

Vol. XLVI. Augusta, Maine, Saturday Morning, September 7, 1878. No. 41.

Maine Farmer.

SAMUEL L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Calendar of Forthcoming Events.

MAINE STATE FAIR: At Presumpscot Park, Portland, Sept. 17-20. Fair in City Hall. A. L. Dennison, Secretary, Portland.

MAINE STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Lewiston, Sept. 24-26. Geo. B. Sawyer, Secretary, Wiscasset.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK: Exhibition of the Board of Agriculture, Oct. 8-11. Hon. Julius L. Inches, Secretary, Fredricton.

KNOX COUNTY SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Camden Oct 1-3. F. W. Smith, Secretary, Rockland.

MONTVILLE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair, Oct. 2.

SCARBORO' FARMERS' CLUB: Annual Fair at Prospect Hill, Sept. 24-25.

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY: Annual Fair at Lewiston, Oct. 1-3, W. R. Wright, Secretary, Lewiston.

FRANKLIN COUNTY: Annual Fair at Farmington, Oct. 8-10. V. L. Craig Secretary, Farmington.

NORTH FRANKLIN SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Toothaker's Park, Phillips, Oct. 1-2. James W. Butterfield, Secretary, Phillips.

NORTH KNOX SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Washington Mills, Oct. 1-3. Wm. Gleason, Secretary, Union.

EAST SOMERSET: Annual Fair at Hartland, Sept. 10-11. J. Finson, Secretary, Hartland.

PENOBSCOT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Orono, Sept. 11-13. B. A. Burr, Secretary, Bangor.

KENNEBEC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Readfield, Oct. 1-3. Geo. A. Russell, Secretary.

WEST SOMERSET SOCIETY: Annual Fair at North Anson, Oct. 1-2, Benj. G. Aliboc, Secretary, North Anson.

NORTH AROOSTOOK SOCIETY: Annual Fair at Presque Isle, Oct. 12-13. C. F. Collins, Secretary, Presque Isle.

SEARSPORT FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' ASSOCIATION: Annual Fair at Searsport Village, and in Union Hall, Oct. 11-12. A. F. Mathews Sec. retary.

PENOBSCOT CENTRE: Annual Fair at East Corinth, Sept. 23-24. Geo. W. Dunning, Secretary, W. Charleston.

OXFORD COUNTY: Annual Fair at South Paris, Oct. 1-3. A. C. Thomas King, Secretary.

PISCATAQUIS CENTRAL: Annual Fair at Dover, Sept. 25-26. D. W. Brockway, Secretary, Dover.

National Agricultural Congress.

Summer Session at New Haven, Conn.

The National Agricultural Congress held its semi-annual meeting at New Haven, Conn., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week, in accordance with previous announcement. From what we have said from time to time concerning this organization and its work, our readers are already quite familiar with its history; but as we get a closer view of its affairs from an attendance upon its meetings, it may not be out of place to give them some idea of new impressions concerning it, founded upon such acquaintance and contact.

History of the Congress.

The National Agricultural Congress as a distinct organization, grew out of the union of two lesser but similar associations—the "Cotton States Agricultural and Mechanical Association," whose headquarters were at Augusta, Georgia, and the "National Agricultural Association" of Nashville, Tenn., having held two independent sessions, at each of which representatives from eleven States were present, and believing that both organizations had the same objects and purposes in view the two were, after the proper preliminary arrangements had been effected, united under the name of the "National Agricultural Congress." This consolidated session was held at St. Louis in May 1872, the associations of which it was composed having held meetings in 1870 and 1871 at Augusta, Ga., Nashville, Tenn., and Selma, Ala. At its first meeting Dr. R. J. Spurr of Kentucky was elected President and Charles W. Greene of Jackson, Tenn., Secretary. Delegates were present at this meeting of organization from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Minnesota, Tennessee and Virginia. The little pamphlet which contains the proceedings of this meeting, issued in 1872, shows that the Congress considered such subjects as forest culture, public transportation, fertilizer control, meteorological observations for the benefit of farmers, education and the duties of agricultural colleges, management of fairs, etc. At the first meeting, also, the late Prof. Maury gave that notable address of his on the applicability of science to agriculture or the establishment of a general system of meteorological observations and crop forecasts—which was one of the last efforts of his useful life. The second session of the Congress was held at Indianapolis, Indiana in 1873, but from not having at hand the transactions of that year—if published—we have no facts touching its work till the Centennial meeting at Philadelphia in 1876, at which numerous papers were read by representative men,—the Transactions of the meeting making a pamphlet of respectable size, but so full of typographical errors as to make any one ashamed of it. Last winter a session was held at Washington, D. C., but we are not aware that the doings of the meeting have ever been published in a body.

Impressions and Criticisms.

After this somewhat lengthy introduction, needed to make our account intelligible, we come to this New Haven meeting and its prospects—it is too early yet to speak of its results—and of some of the impressions which one has who studies its make-up. The idea of a National Agricultural Congress—while embodying many good features, provided they could be crystalized and put into effective operation to bring about needed reforms and positive results—also embodies the idea of an association attempting too much, beset with many obstacles and difficulties in carrying on its work, and being so cumbersome in its management as to fail of accomplishing the purposes it has in view. As witness the immense territory in our Nation, with its different industries; the difficulty and expense of attending from distant points—the entire proceedings of the recent session going on without the presence of its Secretary—the officers and members being strangers to each other and not acquainted with their methods of work and other peculiarities, needed to reach results in common; the frequent changing of its officers living in distant States, rendering its work temporary and fragmentary. These are a few of the difficulties surrounding the effectual life of an association having the best and highest endeavors, and which was started with a grand purpose. We have yet to see long life and a useful record, in our country, to organizations which have attempted so much as to break down with their own weight. The "United States Agricultural Society" which held one exhibition only, and was found too cumbersome to manage, though born in Boston with great expectations, is an example; and the New England Agricultural Society the most useless organization of which we can conceive, is the laughing stock of the agricultural press. Of course we find exceptions to the above—notably in the history of the American Pomological Society, and some of the great scientific associations. But the general criticism holds true, nevertheless. It must be said however, in commendation of the officers of the Congress that they have in arranging the places for its meetings fully carried out the intention of its founders in making it National—from the south to the west and the extreme east certainly gives to the work of the Congress a national character, in full accordance with its bylaws. The attendance of southern gentlemen at the New Haven meeting was most noticeable, and formed one of its most pleasant features; and if the Congress does nothing else but help to cement anew the bond of fellowship and brotherhood between those of different sections of our Nation engaged in the best of human callings, it will not be fruitless of good results.

The Birthplace of Farmers' Conventions.

In passing, we have just a word about some associations of New Haven, of interest to our readers. The modern system of farmers' conventions, or meetings or clubs,—by whatever name they are known—had its origin, or at least its first practical example in this very city of New Haven. Possibly some of our readers remember, possibly others of the later generation never knew about the Yale Agricultural Lectures,—a four week's course of lectures on agriculture, given at the Yale Scientific School (now the Sheffield Scientific School) nearly twenty years ago, in 1850; the very inception of the idea of our farmers' conventions, now so common—so that New Haven is indeed the birthplace of the now popular American farmers' meetings, and the fitting place for a session of the National Agricultural Congress. At that grand Farmers' Club—the reports of which were so widely disseminated in the N. Y. *Tribune* when controlled by Farmer Greeley—were given fifty-nine lectures by the most eminent agriculturists and scientific gentlemen of the time, many of whom are now doing good service in the same noble work, though some have ended their earthly labors. Among the speakers at that convention now living were Marshal P. Wilder, Prof. S. W. Johnson, Dr. Asa Fitch, Lewis F. Allen, Geo. B. Emerson, Henry F. French, Joseph Harris, Prof. D. C. Eaton, T. S. Gold, Prof. Wm. H. Brewer, Patrick Barry, Levi Bartlett, L. H. Tucker, of *Country Gentleman*, Hon. Josiah Quincy, Charles L. Flint, M. C. Weld, then of the *Connecticut Homestead*, Prof. B. Silliman and Hon. Cassius M. Clay, a distiguished cattle breeder and politician of Kentucky. These are now well known, prominent and useful workers in fields of influence and usefulness. Of those who took part in that notable Convention, not now living, were Dr. C. W. Grant and R. G. Pardee, both eminent horticulturists, Moses Quimby the apialeuturist, John Stanton Gould, a President of the New York State Agricultural Society, and a gentleman whom many of our farmers will remember as a lecturer at the meeting of our Board of Agriculture at Paris in 1871, and Sanford Howard, formerly editor of the Boston *Cultivator*, and late Secretary of the Michigan Board of Agriculture. Of those who took part in that Convention who were also present at the late Congress were Patrick Barry of Rochester, N. Y., Prof. Brewer, Mr. T. S. Gold, and Prof. Johnson of Connecticut. The agricultural press did much in disseminating the results of that first convention, it has been doing the same work ever since, and is to-day the most potent and effectual agency in the dissemination of agricultural information and the elevation and improvement of farmers and farming.

The Personnel of the Congress.

The numbers in attendance upon the session of the Congress were at no time large, not more than a hundred being present at its most successful sitting. But with the exception of a few Connecticut farmers who were all intelligent and earnest men, such as one would meet at a farmers' convention in our own State, the gentlemen were marked and distinctive men who are well known throughout the country as representatives of enlightened agriculture. Generally the speakers and leading persons in attendance were men in middle life or past, while some might be called old, comparatively, and a few were young. Mr. Janes the President of the Congress is the successful Commissioner of Agriculture for the state of Georgia, who has done so much in such brief time to organize his Department, and put in operation the forces by which he is doing so great a work for the development of the industries of his State. He is, say fifty-five years of age, of solid build, a practical farmer, and a free, social gentleman, whom it is a pleasure to meet. Mr. Brewer, the chairman of the business committee, is an active gentleman of great scholarly attainments, the Professor of agriculture in the Sheffield School, and botanist to the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture. Mr. J. R. Dodge, until recently the statistican of the Department of Agriculture and the man who ought to have been Commissioner, is one of the prominent men of the Convention. He is we should judge nearly sixty years of age, but yet young in appearance, and his pleasant smile in conversation is rare to meet. Friend Thomas of the *Country Gentleman*,—who does more work on that admirable journal than many think—was present, with his faithful crutch by his side. An old man, but young in feelings, and who is always practical in what he says, and says something well worth hearing. Bro. Wetherell of the *Traveller*, with his venerable white beard, though he is a young man yet, was diligent in making notes, and did not seem himself to us, as he took but little part in the discussions. Bro. Cheever of the *New England Farmer* was also present, note book in hand, and his bronzed farmer-like face and browned hands showed him to be the honest, practical farmer which he is, as well as a sensible writer on what he knows about farming—which is a good deal. The southern members of the convention were numerous, and several States were represented, Col. B. C. Yancy of Georgia, Prof. I. T. Tichenor of Alabama, Ezra Whitman of Maryland, being the leading members of the delegation. Mr. Whitman, by the way, is a Maine man, an old Winthrop boy, a friend of the MAINE FARMER of more than forty years' standing, and himself editor of the Maryland *Farmer*, one of our good exchanges. Mr. T. S. Gold, Secretary of the Connecticut Board of Agriculture, Prof. B. G. Northrop of the Conn. Board of Education, who has done such good service in the cause of agriculture, tree planting and rural embellishments, Dr. Noah Cressy of the Mass. Agricultural College, Henry M. Seeley, Secretary of the Vt. Board of Agriculture and Mr. P. Barry the veteran horticulturist of Rochester, N. Y., were leading members of the convention. Prominent among the younger men present were Dr. Sturtevant, the energetic, studious, thoughtful, wide awake editor of the *Scientific Farmer*, and Secretary *pro. temp.* of the Congress; Prof. S. W. Shattuck of the Illinois Industrial University, and Mr. E. H. Libby, the successful young originator of the *Scientific Farmer* who has recently jumped at a bound into the position of managing editor of the *American Agriculturist* at the boyish age of twenty-six—who is, we are proud to say a native of Maine—where we are sure his organizing ability and industry will help to make that good paper better than ever. Altogether the make up of the Convention, though small in numbers, was strong in representative men from south, west and east of our great country.

The Proceedings.

The proceedings of the Congress were much in accordance with the published programme, and yet they were a partial disappointment. The whole drift of the essays and discussions lacked unity, and aim to a definite end—which should certainly characterize the doings of a National Agricultural Congress. The proceedings in general character, did not rise above the level of our State farmers' convention, and the meetings of our boards of agriculture. They should have been way above them, and dealt with vital and important questions touching our agriculture in various ways—its relations to the state, the methods of work carried on by our various state boards and agricultural colleges and their improvements, its relations to public transportation, and its social and other phases—to which the best consideration of a congress of agriculturists should have been given.

The forenoon of the opening day was occupied with the usual preliminary arrangements, complimentary speeches, etc. The session of the afternoon opened with the reading of a paper on agricultural education by President Janes, in which he took solid and earnest position in favor of the broadest and best education for farmers, but his essay fell much into the old channel of efforts on this subject and contained no single new thought of any value. Mr. E. E. Barney of Dayton, Ohio, followed with a plea for the almost universal planting of the Catalpa tree throughout the western and middle states. It was a paper of many good points, interesting, full of compact. useful facts and received close attention. Though the wood is light it is almost indestructable, when placed in the ground or lying upon it, while its use in the arts, where strength and elasticity are wanted, renders it of great value. It is also very useful for fence timber, posts and stakes, as it has no sap wood, and will last for generations. Mr. Barney has published a work on the Catalpa tree, and as he is to issue a second edition at an early date solicits information upon the subject from all sources. Prof. Northrop of New Haven next read a paper on the reclamation of the waste lands of the Atlantic coast. It would seem from the immense area of our territory and the large amount of fertile land we possess, that it were idle to talk about reclaiming the sand dunes and unprofitable hillsides of our great coast—but in fact it is not too early to have our thoughts turned to this subject, and to the reclaiming them in just the best and most easily to be accomplished manner that can be put in operation, viz., planting them with trees that are adapted to the several localities in which the sand dunes, barrens and unproductive hillsides are found. The re-wooding the barren sands of the Atlantic coast with the larch, pine and other trees was considered perfectly practicable, and the lecturer gave many statements of interest from practical men who are engaged in this work. The familiarity of Prof. Northrop with the subject of forests, forest culture, schools and legislation of European countries—where he traveled extensively last season—gave great interest to the account of his personal observations while there.

On the morning of the second day Mr. J. R. Dodge opened the session with an address commemorative of the life and services of the late Hon. W. C. Flagg, the President of the Congress. It was a plain sketch of the work of a good man, a representative Western man who had the capacity to make the National Agricultural Congress all any man living could make it, and whose death was a loss to American science and American agriculture. There was little attempt at eulogy or a disply of fine words in the sensible production, and as the main facts in the life of Mr. Flagg have heretofore been given in our columns, we need not refer to them again.

The paper prepared by Prof. E. W. Hilgard, of the University of California was read by Prof. Brewer. It dealt with the relations of science to agriculture, but had more especial reference to the scope and management of our agricultural colleges, striking a good idea in the thought that the influence of the farm should be closely thrown around such institutions. They should teach that manual labor may be combined with intellectual labor; for when workmen are rendered intelligent, the respect for them by others is increased, and their own self respect augmented, while their labors have a new delight for them. The paper alluded in a somewhat disparaging tone to the agricultural press, which "advanced many fallacies," seeming to forget that the agricultural press was the agency of dispelling more "fallacies" in agriculture than it was guilty of advancing, and that but for it, the influence of such meetings as that at which his paper was read, would drop into forgetfulness at the moment of adjournment.

Three papers were crowded into the afternoon session, besides a very commonplace discussion which occupied nearly an hour., and produce only conflicting results. Dr. E. L. Sturtevant spoke on his favorite subject of Plant Fertilization; Prof. I. T. Tichenor of Alabama gave a lecture on the extent, effects and remedy of soil exhaustion in our country—a symmetrical, well spoken address, abounding in rounded periods, and a multiplicity of finely chosen words, but extravagant and unwarranted statements so far as its statistics were concerned, and Mr. Ernest Th. Gennert read a most admirable paper on the beet sugar industry in the United States, which we intend to publish in full in a succeeding issue. The subject was received with great interest by the Congress, and was regarded by many prominent gentlemen, as the most important matter that had been presented for consideration. Attention to this matter is largely on the increase in our country, and the experiment our State is making in its establishment will be watched with earnest care by states and capitalists.

The morning session of the third day was opened by a paper from friend John J. Thomas of the *Country Gentleman*, on the arrangement and improvement of buildings—a subject to which he has given much attention,—and the practical directions of his well stored mind and large experience, in regard to the details of planing, building, arranging, and care of all sorts of farm buildings from the dwelling to the smallest out-building; were of a kind to command close attention. As it is doubtful if the transactions of the Congress are published, except in the public journals, we hope friend Thomas will give American farmers the whole of his admirable essay by publishing it entire in the *Country Gentleman*.

Following this, Hon. John L. Hayes of Boston read a most admirable address on the resources of the United States for sheep husbandry and the wool manufacture—a subject most fitting to be discussed by a National Congress of agriculturists, and the treatment of which could not have been entrusted to better hands. Mr. Hayes is the best informed gentleman on the subjects of this specialty in the country, and is everywhere acknowledged as the highest authority in matters of wool, wool statistics, production and manipulation. No abstract can give a satisfactory idea of its great value, but we have filed for early insertion in our columns the substance of its leading features, as given in the Boston *Advertiser* on the day of its delivery. This lecture occupied the remainder of the forenoon session.

In the afternoon the able paper of Prof. W. H. Brewer on the relations of the government to agriculture was read by that gentleman—and it was this paper with two or three others which saved the proceedings from utter failure as a National meeting. Prof. Brewer is a compact writer, fine speaker, and the different phases of his subject were very thoroughly and ably presented. He claimed that by the theoretical rules underlying our government, it was its duty to perform certain necessary work for the general good, and he believed that in the future agriculture would receive more aid and attention from the general government than it had in the past. The collection and publication of agricultural statistics, official estimates, and the dissemination of agricultural information rightfully belonged to the government. Among other matters proper for government control is that pertaining to inland transportation, and the organizad action of capital to do what is beyond the power of individual enterprise—which last he believed to be the coming conflict in our civilization. But time will solve it, and he believed it would be solved by the people, and in the interests of the people.

The session of the Congress was continued into Thursday evening, but as we were obliged to leave in order to make connections for the east, it was impossible for us to be present at the closing meeting. Papers were to be given by Dr. C. V. Riley of Washington, D. C., on the relations of entomology to agriculture; by X. A. Willard, A M., of New York on dairying adapted to the southern states; and by Dr. H. J. Smith of Philadelphia and Dr. N. H. Paaren of Chicago on the needs and importance of the veterinary art to the United States—some of whom were not present, and whose papers would be read by others.

Results and Conclusions.

The results of the late session of the Congress may be gathered up somewhat after this fashion:—a three day's convention at which papers were read to very small audiences, on a considerable variety of topics—some of them important, others commonplace—by distinguished gentlemen, and which but for the agency of the agricultural press in publishing an account of the same for the benefit of those most interested, would exert but little influence upon our agricultural thought or practices. It was a matter for regret that the Secretary of the Congress was not present, and that no excuse for his absence was telegraphed to the convention, at any time during its sitting, was a matter of surprise. Dr. Sturtevant, as temporary secretary, won compliments from all who saw the capacity which he brought to the discharge of duties with which he was not familiar; but all through the meeting it was plain the organization needed a head, and Mr. Periam's presence would undoubtedly have given to its proceedings more unity and system—he being the officer who had had the planing of all arrangements for the meeting.

Having attended a session of the "National Agricultural Congress," we are more than ever convinced that our remarks at the commencement of this article in regard to the difficulty of managing an association covering so much territory, with so inefficient and uncertain a set of machinery, are not out of place. And yet, is a Congress of National agriculturists, meeting on a good basis, and going to work by good methods to accomplish needed results, an impossibility? Not by any means, as the success of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a few like societies shows that it is not an impossibility. And not far distant, we predict, will be the day when an association composed of the Secretaries of the various boards, departments, and societies of agriculture in the several States, with the Presidents of the State colleges of agriculture, will be formed; which shall hold a two weeks' session once in two years, attended by paid delegates, where ample time shall be given for *fully considering* measures relating to the prosperity and advancement of all the agencies for the promotion of agricultural knowledge and practices, and where time shall not be taken up with tedious discussions on the results of applying different fertilizers to different soils, and similar matters. And even then we believe the most good must and will continue to be accomplished in a positive way, by our State Farmers' Conventions, local club meetings, *and the agricultural press*;—agencies in which we have the most unshaken faith, because we see the results, every day, in the different states where these agencies are at work, of what they are accomplishing, gradually, but surely, in behalf of our agriculture.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

About Raising an Orchard.

I have to thank you, Mr. Editor, for a copy of the Fifth Annual Report of the Maine Pomological Society, which, with its predecessors, I have read with avidity, and regard as among the most useful books I have read upon the subject.

Dr. True's excellent paper, with the discussion thereon, are filled with practical truths that cannot fail to help those who read and reflect upon them. We need more of science and less of empiricism—more knowledge and less of men's mere say-so—in connection with the handling of fruit trees, and the growing of an orchard, before the teaching we get from books will be of much practical help to the interested beginner in fruit culture. There is no reason why, by the sound experience of his predecessors, plainly recorded, the young orchardist may not proceed in his work upon a sound basis, so that, (making allowance for oversights, and the want of that knowledge of the relative importance of various points that can be got only by actual experience), he will be successful from the start, instead of wasting the first ten years, and becoming discouraged by ill-success, the causes of which could not be made out, for want of sound ideas in the books consulted upon the subject.

When I first came to northern Vermont I was told that apple-growing, aside from crab apples, was not to be thought of. By a little inquiry I learned, however, that in the early history of the country large orchards were planted out, grew well, and were so productive that apples were worthless from their very abundance. These old orchards, however, had died out, and every attempt to replace them with nursery-grown trees proved a complete failure. The old orchards were all natural fruit, a grafted tree being a rare occurrence, and what there were of those were top-grafted in the limbs. My first impulse was to go back to the first principles, as it were, and begin as the pioneers had begun, from the seed. I did not believe very much in the current opinion that the changes were brought about by the clearing up of the country, had rendered apple growing impossible. But I thought I would be thorough about it, and believing it to be desirable to avoid even so much injury to young trees as comes from transplanting, I planted my apple seed in hills 25 or 30 feet apart, designing to select the thriftiest seedling in each hill, and remove the others. My attention was to let this one tree grow until large enough, and then top-graft it in the branches. But, alas! only one single tree of the hundred and fifty hills planted survived the first three winters. With that "one scattering tree" I followed out my original plan, and it is now a large, thrifty and productive apple tree, as perfect as I expected the whole to be when I began. This discouraging experience set me to thinking more deeply. It is not in my nature to give up beat, but I saw plainly that if I would win I must begin my advance on some other line. Where was my mistake?

I thought it out in this way: This is a hard climate. Only the very hardiest kinds of apple, as hardy as the Siberian crab, can be expected to survive our severest winters. Evidently my seedlings were not hardy enough—except one of them. Then the only way open before me was to give up trying to grow my orchard from seeds planted on the spot were it was to grow ever afterwards. I must give up my "original improvement" on the method of the pioneers, and keep my seedlings in the nursery until our forty-degrees-below-zero winters had sifted them, leaving only those that, cut into, would show a wood that looked white, "like a white oak," as Dr. True says. And I must plant a large number; as, judging by my past experience, hardly one in a hundred of my seedlings could be expected to endure the test.

This looked a little discouraging to a man nearly forty year, old. Like "he who plants pears," according to the old adage, he must "plant for his heirs" on this system. Nine years in the nursery before setting in the orchard, two years to establish them before grafting, and eight or ten years more before much fruit could be excepted, was a far outlook to a man past middle age. Still I went at it with what courage I might, at the same time making purchases of budded or grafted nursery trees of the hardiest kinds I could hear of. These purchases were made spring after spring, while the seedlings of my prospective orchard on the "pioneer system" were growing. At first the results of the trials with nursery trees were lamentable, fully confirming the opinions of my neighbors, that nothing could be done with such trees. But here and there among them a tree or two did survive and grow. The Williams' Favorite failed, but the St. Lawrence grew; the Yellow Bellflower gave up the ghost, but the Red Astrachan lost a few limbs and then seemed to recover. The Moses Wood succumbed, but the Talman Sweet stood it tolerably. The Red Canada proved a sickly thing, but the Westfield-Seek-no-Further was better. Still these sorts that did not die had not the bright green bark of the crab apples, and when a limb was removed in pruning, the trickling sap smoutched the trunk down to the ground. Two sorts only, among my earlier settings, grew all right and looked all right. These were the Duchess of Oldenburgh and the Tetofsky. Seeing that it was going to be a long and costly experiment to solve the problem before me, I began to graft some of my seedlings in the crown of the root or a little above. I also budded some, using in both cases, scions or buds from those purchased trees that seemed the hardiest. I also inquired of the farmers, in my travels over the hills, for any chance seedlings that had sprung up, proved hardy, and bore a tolerably good fruit. Of these I took scions or buds.

It was soon revealed to me that there was a wonderful hardiness in most of the Russian apples. This fact was a little clouded by finding that one of them, the Red Astrachan was somewhat tender in very severe localities. But Tetofsky and Duchess of Oldenburg are real "iron-clads" and great bearers of large, handsome fruit of good quality, that sells well in any market.

Some eight years ago the Department of Agriculture at Washington imported many new varieties from Russia. Some twenty kinds of these I have tested, and find all perfectly hardy, but all, so far, like Duchess and Tetofsky prove to be summer and fall fruit. For winter apples I have been compelled to depend upon native seedlings, and two or three have proved not only hardy, but productive and good, so that I can recommend them to the orchardists of the colder parts of your State, where Baldwins, Greenings and Russets fail. These are named the Magor Red Streak and Scott's Winter. They both keep well, the Scott about as long as the Roxbury Russet.

My article is getting too long, but I will take a little more space, (with your permission) to say that my experience with crown-grafted trees, or whole roots is such that I am obliged to believe them as good as trees top-grafted upon the plan of Dr. True. This is evidently not the experience of most fruit-growers, yet I think the failure of most nursery trees are "root grafted" may be satisfactorilly explained on grounds other than such as would condemn trees worked as I work them—on the crown of large, thrifty, whole roots, grown from the seeds of hardy varieties. At any rate I have now an orchard of 500 such trees, from 5 to 8 years old, that will give me several hundred bushels of apples the present season. Almost every tree is perfectly healthy and though mostly well burdened with fruit they are making good growth. Some of the older trees have no less than three bushels of fruit on them to-day.

Now this is a great gain over the method recommended by Dr. True and the leading members of your Pomological Society, and attempted by me at the outset. I am still carrying on that method as an experiment, but the marked way in which my crown-grafted trees have outstripped the large seedlings top-worked is having its effect upon my mind, as facts must upon all candid minds. Besides the length of time needed to get top-worked trees into bearing, I find many difficulties in regard to a perfect union and uniform growth between scion and stock. All grafting on limbs too large to grow over, or nearly so, the first year, is liable to suffer in our hard winters, and black heart to begin, in the stock, from the point of union. Grafts also are liable to blow out in high winds where they make a large growth the first season. Take all in all, my preference strongly inclines towards crown-grafting, *as I do it*, over either top-grafting or budding.

Newport, Vt. T. H. HOSKINS, M. D.

For the Maine Farmer.

How to Raise that Extra Acre of Corn or Wheat.

As it takes everybody to know everything I thought I would advance a few ideas on making and saving fertilizers for our farms; and what I am now going to write is from experience.

Farming on most of the farms in Maine is unprofitable without manure, but with it, it may be made very profitable. We will take it for granted then, that dressing is the key note to successful farming. Now how shall we make any more dressing than what our cattle will make? I will tell you how I make it. I have a barn cellar in which I have two wells dug under each end of the stable, four feet deep and six feet wide covered over without stoning. Where these shoal wells are it is lower than any place in the cellar or barnyard; consequently every rain we have the water finds its way into these wells carrying with it the liquid dressing from the barnyard and hog-yard and privy. In these wells I have a small chain pump that pumps half a barrel a minute, costing only three dollars each. I haul muck and dirt into the barn cellar and every leisure time we have I pump this liquid on to the muck and it is so thick sometimes it almost ropes. The result is, this muck without anything with it gives my best corn and beans.

If a farmer has no barn cellar he has a sag in the barnyard, if not he can soon make one. There let him dig a reservoir and begin his compost heap with the dirt he throws out of it. And if he cannot afford a pump it will pay him to bale it out. If he cannot get muck get dirt or sods beside the roads, or any substance that will absorb the liquid. These pumps are very cheap and simple in construction so much so that most any boy can make one after seeing it. Some will say they have no time to haul muck. I say to take time just as you do to work out your highway tax. You had better neglect something else, say let that old field go one year longer, or knock around the rocks on a certain piece of land that you would like to haul off, one year longer.

I claim that any man who keeps a few head of cattle and sheep and a hog, can with a little labor this fall make dressing sufficient for an acre of good corn or wheat provided he will prepare a place to hold the liquids from his yards and manure heaps. It is better to let your compost heap remain till spring as you then will have any amount of liquid to apply to your heap. You can make your heap as broad as you please as you can make board spouts to conduct the liquid all over it.

You will find your horse heap will contain hogsheads of this liquid and it keeps it from drying or burning up. You want your pumps high enough with a staging around it to stand on and pump into a barrel or hogshead on your cart for you will find in the months of April and May, you can haul on to your dry mowing fields almost continually the very quintessence of a fertilizer; and in being a liquid it finds is way at once to the roots of plants as the solid dressing has to be saturated and leached with rain. A man might as well try to whistle successfully without an under lip as to undertake to raise an extra acre of corn or wheat successfully without some kind of fertilizers—I mean on old run out fields. One of my neighbors, Mr. James Spencer, a very successful farmer, has for a number of years past been getting dressing in every conceivable way so much so that I have heard the remark made many times that Spencer had "manure on the brain." His crops show the benefit of such a disease if it may be called a disease, and I think it is contageous as I have caught it and instead of trying to cure it I want it to increase. I can see the symptoms fast growing on other farmers.

What induced me to write the above was I have just come in from a pumping operation, and the affluvia that arose would convince any one that anything must grow that came in contact with it. Now, Mr. Editor, you can publish the whole or a part of this or not any, and I will take no offence. I leave it to your good judgment, feeling very sorry that I am not capable of writing more and better for the good old MAINE FARMER. Crops of all kinds look splendidly in this vicinity, especially corn and wheat. I sold nearly four bushels of seed corn of the Chase variety, and it is all looking finely—some fields are from seven to eight feet high at this time.

Princeton, Aug. 12. OSCAR PIKE.

For the Maine Farmer.

Some facts About a Friend.

Doubtless not a few, when in turning over the soil they have uncovered dozens of earth worms (angle worms.) have wondered how they procure their food and whether they are desirable tenants of the soil. The results of some researches conducted by Prof. Hensen seem to demonstrate that this little animal is a friend to the agriculturist, one continually at work for him. Perhaps a review of those results may not be uninteresting to the readers of the farmers.

It is well known that in wet weather the worms come in the night to the surface of the ground, and with one end remaining in the mouth of their hole, reach around together and draw back with them what fragments of vegetable material they chance to find. If it be a leaf dried it is rolled together and drawn in, but in no case is this material drawn in but a short distance. Only when these vegetable fragments become moist and softened does the worm use them for food, and then one can plainly see when the leaves &c., are gnawed. The meal continues but one day.

Hensen learned some facts in regard to the construction of the passages which the worm digs. On account of the loose character of soil containing much humus he was not able to learn much about their method of building there, but in sandy soils the tube extends downward three or four feet, sometimes six feet, and then is continued for some distance horizontally, but often ending suddenly without any change of direction. The worm is generally found at the end of the tube. Along the sides of the passages were found small dark lumps of the worms excreation, which make the soil fertile. If a worm digs a fresh hole in a dish of sand, these nodules will be found after one day. Old passages are commonly filled with this black earth produced by worms. A microscopic examination of this earth shows it to be similar to leaf mold used for filling plant pots—nearly all of the vegetable fabric destroyed. A chemical examination also demonstrates the similarity of this worth to fruitful humus soils. These two facts leave no chance for doubt as to its good effects in the soil.

Hensen made some observations as to whether these tubes aid the extensions of the roots of growing plants. He found roots growing from near the middle of these passages to the end, sending out fine oval hairs to the sides. Such tubes must certainly be helpful to the growth of roots. In many cases this growth is hindered by the heavy compact character of the soil. Here there is no opposition, and the fine rootless are in immediate contact with the humus like earth which these holes contain. Hensen is of the opinion that in general, roots growing downward with thick points can push their way without help, but that the roots of animals can find their way deep into the sub-soil only where there are earth worms.

Experiments were made to determine the amount of work done by these blind subsoilers. A dish one foot and a half in diameter was filled to the depth of one and a half feet with sand, the sand covered with a layer of leaves, and two worms placed in it. They went to work quickly, and in six weeks leaves were found drawn into the sand to the depth of three inches, and the sand was completely covered one third of an inch deep with humus. In the sand were found numerous passages, some new, some with the sides covered with this humus, and others completely filled with the same. This certainly was a clear demonstration of what these little animals can do.

It became interesting to know how many worms are employed in this work in an acre of land. The experimenter determined the number for a certain area of garden soil, and found that in one acre of such soil, there would be fifty-five thousand worms, weighing three hundred and thirty-six pounds. Of course these figures would not hold for the ordinary soil of our fields, but yet they show what an army of workers are present there. The earth worm has been accused of gnawing the roots of plants. In no case has this been proved, and they have never been found to contain any fresh vegetable fragments, when in plant pots they may do harm by a mechanical disturbance of the roots.

The conclusion of Hensen are summed up as follows: "It is plain that these worms can produce no new materials for manure, but they increase the value of that which is present in various ways. 1st. They insure a uniform distribution of the natural fertilizers of the fields, while they draw in and fix leaves and cover fragments blown off by the wind. 2d. They hasten the decomposition of this material. 3d. They distribute it in the different layers of the soil. 4th. They open the sub-soil to the plant roots. 5th. They make this sub-soil fertile. It certainly makes a difference for the gardeners whether he does or does not have an animal weight of three hundred and thirty-six pounds helping him in his work, and that too in a way he can hardly imitate."

New Gloucester. W. H JORDAN, B. S.

For the Maine Farmer.

Remedy for Diseased Pigs.

Four years ago I had some lame pigs and they were so decidedly as Mr. T. L. Allen describes his, I will give him my remedy and its effect. There were four of them from three to four months old, fat and thrifty, weighing (good judges said) not less than one hundred and twenty-five pounds. I was flattering myself upon the prospect of having some splendid hogs to kill the next year. But when I looked into their nest and saw three of them dragging themselves upon their hind parts and the other one just able to tottle out to the trough, my thermometer went down quite a number of degrees in a few minutes. However, deciding not to give up beat without an effort I went to studying hogology, and came to the conclusion that these pigs were made up of too much fat for their bone and muscle. Their feed had been skim milk and wheat middlings with a little shorts or bran. I now left out the midlings and put them on to a halt allowance of milk and shorts, putting into each feed one teaspoonful of fine bone meal and the same amount of sulphur. They were all taken lame about the same time, and in one week after making the change in their feed, they were on their feet again and were very soon strong and remained so until I killed them at fourteen months old when they weighed five hundred pounds apiece. I think farmers ought to feed bone meal to all young growing animals. JOTHAM WESTON.

Skowhegan.

For the Maine Farmer.

Agricultural Intelligence.

To the Patrons of Maine.

Patrons who propose to avail themselves of the offer of the State Agricultural Society as announced through the FARMER of last week, are requested to apply for tent grounds at once to A. L. Dennison, Portland. The grangers will be there.

D. H. THING.

From Aroostook County.

Crops are looking finely in this section, except where the rust has taken them. The rust has done considerable damage in places to some kinds of potatoes, especially the "Early Rose." The potato bugs have come but have not done any damage as yet, and I think the climate of Aroostook does not agree with them, and with a little attention now, we shall never have any trouble with them. HARRY.

Monticello, August 21.

The Ploughs of the World.

The Exhibition of Ploughs at the Paris Exposition.

It may be truly said of this Exhibition that it contains ploughs of all nations and all ages. From the simple bent stick used 4,000 years ago in Egypt, and still in vogue in some of the islands of the Malay Archipelago, and shown in the exhibit of the Dutch Colonies, to the steam-plough built by John Fowler & Co., of Leeds, England, and displayed in the English Agricultural Annex, all kinds are represented. There are four American exhibitors: Deere, of Moline, Ill.; Gale, of Albion, Mich.; Speer, of Pittsburg, Penn.; Farquhar, of York, Penn. Our exhibit is small in area and the implements are few in number, but they are of good finish, quality and construction. The exhibition furnishes an excellent opportunity to trace the progress by which man has arrived at the present perfection in ploughs. I say perfection, for there seems nothing left to be desired in this kind of agricultural implements.

The colonies of Holland have here the finest collection of agricultural implements of an uncivilized race, or rather region, which it has ever been my good fortune to see. The Dutch seem to have managed their colonies better than any other people under the sun, and Wallace declares Java to be the best cultivated island in the world, England excepted. Rice mainly occupies the farmer's care, for the pepper vine and sugar cane as well as some others of the island products do not call for plough and harrow as does this plant. Its grain forms the principal food for the people, and two or three crops are raised per annum off the same ground. The implements and tools are of a rude description, almost entirely of wood, and the ploughs are adapted for a single ox in some cases and in other instances for two

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Sept. 7, 1878.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.
2.00 IN ADVANCE, OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Postage Free to all Subscribers.

☞All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers tha printed date in connection with the subscriber's na ne will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

☞A subscriber desiring to change his post-office direction or to discontinue his paper, must commun cate to us the *name of the office to which it has prev iously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Notice to Delinquent Subscribers.

We are now making up the accounts of subscribers to the MAINE FARMER, who are indebted for the paper from the year 1873 to the present time, to be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection. Opportunity will be given to all who are thus in arrears to make payment to our agents or to this office, at our advertised rates on or before Oct. 1, 1878, If delayed beyond that date, collection will be enforced by legal means.

Augusta, Aug. 12, 1878. BADGER & MANLEY.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. J. P. CLARK, our agent, will call upon our subscribers, in Penobscot county during August and September.

Mr. C. S. AYER will visit our subscribers in Franklin county during the month of August.

Mr. S. N. TABER is now calling upon our Subscribers in Hancock County.

An Important State Industry.

In a recent article in the FARMER, in which some general thoughts were given on some special industries for which our State was especially adapted, allusion was made to our advantages for growing green corn for canning purposes, and the extent to which this business has grown during the past few years. Some statistics of this great industry of our State for the present season will be of interest.

Mr. J. Winslow Jones of Portland, who controls the patents of the Winslow process of canning corn, and who is more extensively engaged in this business than any other parties in the States, has seven corn packing factories situated in the following named towns: Farmington, Fairfield (Kendall's Mills,) Wilton, Bridgton, Mechanic Falls, Yarmouth, and his celebrated Riverton factory in Deering—one of the largest and best appointed establishments of the kind in Maine. The Portland Packing Company have six factories, situated as follows: Strowduater (Deering), Cumberland Mills, Saccarappa, Gorham, Naples and Casco. Burnham & Morrill of Portland have four factories, located respectively at Minot, South Paris, Scarboro (Denastan Corner), and Baldwin. In addition to the above Messrs. W. K. Lewis & Co. of Boston have put up a small factory at Freeport this season which will be operated for a few weeks. Mr. McLellan of Windham, and Mr. Sawyer of Wilton, who both did something in a small way last year, have enlarged their operations the present season and are doing more than formerly, although we have no statistics of their exact amount of business.

The seventeen factories mentioned above, operated by the three largest firms in this State engaged in the corn packing business, will this season average 250,000 cans to each factory. During an extra year for the business they would pack 300,000 cans, but this year the market for canned goods of this variety is rather flat and the competition is becoming greater every year. Corn canning is becoming quite an industry in Maryland, and although the product of that State is not so good as that of our own, yet it brings our goods into competition with theirs and compels our manufacturers to sell at a lower price or lose the trade. The above named Maine factories will put up this year a total of 4,250,000 cans of sweet corn. To supply these factories requires from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and seventy-five acres of corn, which are grown by farmers in the vicinity of the factories, under a contract with the proprietors. The average yield on the whole acreage planted is from ten to twelve hundred cans per acre, although some years good acres will go as high as twenty-five hundred cans. The general price paid is 3 cents per can, or 3 cents for twenty-six ounces after the corn is cut from the cob. Some of the factories near Portland, we learn, are paying this season 3 1-2 cents per can, but it must be regarded as exceptional. At this price there will be paid to those farmers who grow corn for the factories this season, the sum of $127,500.00. If the sum obtained per acre for the corn seems small it must be remembered that the fodder from an acre of corn, when well cured is worth on an average as much as is a good crop of hay, or say $20, making the return equivalent to $56 cash per acre. The business gives ready cash to the farmer for his crop, and therefore this great industry, in which the manufactures have invested so much capital, proves a direct aid and encouragement to our agriculture. The total value of the canned goods put up in our State including lobsters, fish, berries, etc., in which the trade is very large, reaches a yearly amount of nearly $2,000,000. All such enterprises aid our agriculture and help to develope the business industries of our goodly State.

THE STATE FAIR. Among the new features of interest and importance which the managers of the State Fair are providing to make it a success, are two which must meet the hearty approval of all. One is to be an exhibition of the work of the students at the State college in the mechanical work lately introduced there through the liberality of Ex-Gov. Coburn, which will be exhibited by Prof. Pike; and the other will be an exhibition of the processes of sugar beet manufacture by Mr. Ernest Th. Gennert, the Superintendent of the Maine Beet Sugar Company, Portland. This will be so arranged as to show the whole process of beet manipulation, from the seed to the growing beets, the manner of drying the beets and the method of making them into sugar, together with an exhibit of sugar in all stages from the juice to the loaf sugar, and the refuse which is so valuable as a cattle feed. This alone will form a most interesting and instructive picture of the fair, and will be worthy of careful study. The field meetings, or farmers' discussions, to be held during the evenings of the exhibition will also be of interest to large numbers of practical farmers, who will be glad to know the managers have adopted the suggestion of the MAINE FARMER in providing for them. We trust they may be well attended.

SEED WINTER WHEAT WANTED. Mr. L. P. Reynolds of River Herbert, N. S.,—an old resident of Maine—wants some winter wheat for fall sowing, and if any of our subscribers can furnish it, they are requested to communicate with him as above. Mr. Reynolds some years ago introduced the Lost Nation wheat into that section which proved well, and now the farmers want to try winter wheat. His address by express is Maccan, Nova Scotia.

COUNTY FAIRS. The Sagadahoc County Fair will be held on the grounds of the Society at Topsham, Oct. 8–10, I. E. Mallett, Secretary. The Western Piscataquis agricultural fair is to be holden at Monson, on the 2–3 of October. J. F. Thombs, Secretary. The East Piscataquis Agricultural Society will hold their annual Fair at Brownville, Sept. 23–24, 1878. E. E. Sturtevant, Milo, Secretary.

☞The Cumberland Farmers' Club will hold their annual Fair Sept. 25th and 26th, at West Cumberland.—J. W. MOUNTFORT, *Sec'y.*

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. The amount of rain which fell in this city during August 1877 was six inches and ninety one hundredths of an inch. Amount which fell during August just passed was four inches and sixty-nine one hundredths of an inch. Amount which fell during June, July and August, 1877 ten inches and ten one hundredths of an inch. Amount which fell during June, July and August this year nine inches and fifteen one hundredths of an inch, nearly an inch less than last season.——The Trustees of the Insane Asylum have made their quarterly visit to the Hospital this week.——Mr. James Savage, who is building a portion of the Boston, Hoosac Tunnel & Western Railroad, is now employing one hundred and fifty men, to whom he is paying from one to two dollars per day. A large portion of his force went from this vicinity.——The Aldermen are to be in session on Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the purpose of correcting the voting lists.——The polls in this city are to be opened at the election on Monday one hour earlier than usual, at nine o'clock.——A quick trip. Senator Blaine left his home on Thursday of last week for Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he arrived Monday evening. On Tuesday he delivered an address before the North Western Agricultural Fair, and left same night for home, which he expects to reach Friday. He will be gone just eight days, spending one night in Boston, one day and night in Chicago, and one day and night in Minneapolis, the rest of the time in the cars, riding thirty-five hundred miles.——A daughter of Mr. Alfonso Stone sold eight chickens, hatched the first of May, killed the first of August, on Friday of last week, for sixty-seven and a half cents apiece. These chickens were a mixture of Light Brahmas and Buff Cochins.——Mr. Bartlett Tripp, who ten years ago was a resident of our city has just received the Democratic nomination as member of Congress from the territory of Dakota.——Rev. Dr. W. H. Shaller of Portland preached last Sunday at the First Baptist Church.——Rev. Dr. D. R. Cady of Westboro' will for the present supply the pulpit of the Congregational Church.——The house of Mr. Orrin Taylor, on Western Avenue, opposite Mr. Fred Tibbetts, was burned to the ground Wednesday evening week at half past seven o'clock, together with the ell and stable. The house was built last season. The fire caught in the stable. Insured for $1,000, which will not quite cover the loss.——Mr. George E. Weeks and Mr. P. O. Vickery were renominated by the Republicans on Tuesday evening as candidates for Representatives to the Legislature.——Miss Kate Claxton, supported by her New York Theatre Company, gave a goodly number of our citizens a rich theatrical treat on Wednesday evening at Granite Hall, in the presentation of the "Two Orphans." Miss Claxton's presentation of the blind girl is the perfection of art.——Mayor Nash has issued an appeal to our citizens asking for contributions in aid of those communities in the South who are stricken with the yellow fever. We have no doubt our citizens will contribute liberally. Mayor Nash will forward all contributions sent to him.

THE BANKRUPT LAW expired on the thirty-first day of August, leaving an accumulation of business in the hands of Registers, Assignees, Marshals and Courts, which will take more than a year to dispose of. In our land power is conferred upon Congress by the Constitution to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy, and when it is exercised it supersedes all the State insolvent, or bankrupt laws. This power, was first exercised by act of April 4, 1800, repealed Dec. 19, 1803; again by act of Aug. 19, 1841, repealed in 1843, and by act of March 2, 1867, which expired Aug. 31, 1878. The law is founded upon wise and humane principles, for it has long been regarded as contrary to public welfare as well as a violation of the public sense of justice, that men who are honestly unfortunate in business, should be held helplessly down by burdensome debts and thereby kept from any further efforts or participation in the business enterprises of the country. Years ago it was settled judicialy that no State could grant a release as against creditors residing in other States, and so it has been three times regarded necessary, in this country, to exercise the power conferred upon Congress by the Constitution. While it is well at times to exercise this power, there is a general feeling of relief that the repeal of the law has taken effect, for no sooner is such a means of relief offered to unfortunate, but honest men, than it is taken advantage of by dishonest persons, and although the recent law was framed in the experience of previous English and American bankrupt acts, it was found that what was supposed to be the very safeguards to honest debtors became the avenues of escape for rascals, and the time had come for its repeal. Our own State at the last session of the Legislature, revised and enacted, in anticipation of the Bankrupt Law, the Insolvent Act, which was framed with great care, endeavoring to afford full and ample protection to honest and unfortunate debtors, and to make swindling difficult. The repeal of the bankrupt law will be beneficial to general business, for it is uncertainty of credit that causes depression in business, and men knowing they will be held for every dollar they agree to pay, will become more cautious, and caution leads to confidence, and with confidence restored we may look for a revived and prosperous business.

THE DEBT OF GREAT BRITAIN. Fairfield, Sept. 2, 1878. Mr. Editor: We want you to tell us, if you will, through the columns of the good old FARMER, something about the debt of Great Britain and the rate of interest paid. W. C. SIMPSON.

The public debt of Great Britain is now $3,785,692,584. This is very much more than half larger than the debt of our own country. Of this vast amount, $3,440,480,154 is a funded debt, which together with $230,000,000 of terminable annuities, forms the "consols," which draw three per cent. interest. The consols, generally spoken of as "the funds," is the favorite form of investment for trust funds, bequests, and small capitals generally.

DEATH OF JUDGE DICKERSON. Hon. Jonathan G. Dickerson L. L. D., Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, died at his residence in Belfast, on Sunday afternoon, aged 65 years. Judge Dickerson was a native of Waldo county. He graduated at Colby University and received the honorary degree of L. L. D. from that institution. He was admitted to the bar in Waldo, and practiced in Belfast until 1862, when he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He was re-appointed in 1869 and in 1876. He was a close student, a logical reasoner, a good lawyer, an incorruptible judge, and his career on the bench has been honorable to himself and to the State.

THE ELECTION. Nominations made since our last issue, which complete the Senatorial nominations of all parties.

Democratic nominations. Sagadahoc county: Senator, Parker M. Whitmore, Bath. Somerset county: Senators, Amos F. Parlin, Skowhegan; Archibald Linn, Hartland.

Greenback nominations. Sagadahoc county: Senator, Parker M. Whitmore, Bath.

TALL CORN. I noticed a stalk of tall corn in the FARMER office, but Isaac Hussey of East Vassalboro' has some which will leave it in the shade. It now stands (Sept. 3d,) 14 feet 9 inches, with ears above my reach. Seed from (and proves true to name) "Monmouth Corn."—*S. N. Taber, Vassalboro'.*

THE TRADE DOLLAR. There seems to be a want of knowledge among a large class of the people as to the trade dollar. It ought to be known that the trade dollar is not money and never was intended to be. It is simply so many grains of bullion, and it is not issued by the government, but simply stamped for the owners of the bullion, precisely as silver bars are stamped, each piece being marked with its exact weight and fineness, and the owner of the bullion paying the government the expense of so stamping. The report of the Director of the mint, which led to the authorization of the trade dollar, after reciting the requirements of trade with China and Japan, recommends "a new coin or disk, which shall be slightly more valuable than the Mexican dollar, to be made only on the request of the owner of the bullion and to be paid for by him," and adds, it is not proposed to make the new coin or disk a legal tender in payment of debt, but simply a stamped ingot, with its weight and fineness indicated. Its manufacture can therefore in no wise give rise to any complication with our monetary system, and neither in theory or principle differ in any respect from the manufacture of unparted or refined bars now authorized by law, except in being of uniform weight and fineness. Upon this recommendation and to meet a want on the Pacific coast, where it was needed for export to China, the trade dollar was authorized in the coinage act of 1873. By an inadvertence, it was included in the list of subsidiary coins named in the same act and made legal tender for sums not exceeding five dollars, but the error was corrected by subsequent legislation, before many had been issued. The trade dollars are not dollars at all, but only pieces of silver. They are simply merchandise. No person is under any obligation to take one for money any more than he is to take a bushel of wheat, corn, apples or potatoes. There are now in circulation in this country and abroad, mostly in China and Japan, nearly thirty-six millions of these disks or coins. For speculative purposes purely, there is an attempt to give an uncalled for depreciation to the value of the trade dollar, causing a considerable annoyance, and in some cases to the poorer classes suffering. The railroads and many traders are now taking these coins for only ninety cents, and the only way to prevent this depreciation is for the people who hold these coins to retain them for a short time. The present depreciation cannot last long, and is entirely in the interest of speculators. The legal tender silver dollar contains 7 1-2 grains less of silver than the trade dollar, and as long as we have the silver dollar of 412 1-2 grains as a legal tender dollar, a coin of 420 grains cannot long be worth much less. As soon as the legal tender silver dollar gets into general circulation, the trade dollar will be worth more than the legal tender dollar and silversmiths will be glad to purchase them. There is no good ground for the trade dollar being sold at less than a dollar, and holders of them should refuse to part with them unless they receive for them a legal tender dollar. The following letter, from the most widely known banking firm in this country is in itself sufficient to cause all holders of the trade dollar not to become the victims of speculators:

New York, August 21, 1878.

HUGH COLVILLE, ESQ., Cashier Commercial Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio: We observe a statement in the newspapers that your banks receive on deposit Trade Dollars at only ninety cents. It may be of interest to you to state that this silver is saleable in this market at about ninety-nine cents. If you should have any accumulation of it, we could sell it here to your advantage.

Yours respectfully,
WINSLOW, LANIER & CO.

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE, which has been in session in Paris closed its labors on Friday of last week. Gov. Fenton closed the general debate on the part of the United States. He summarized the previous arguments of the American delegates and answered objections to them. His speech was conciliatory. He sought to lessen the divergency of views and indicated a possible ground for mutual understanding. He said the United States expected from the Conference, if not a decision favorable to the free circulation of silver, at least such expression of opinion as would enable Americans to hope to obtain later the co-operation they came to request. He urged the importance of international agreement for the use of silver at a certain ratio with gold. He pointed out that though occasional readjustment of the ratio or temporary limitation of the mintage might possibly be required, these details could be easily settled. Although the United States were prepared and able to act alone, they felt that international co-operation would facilitate the full use of silver.

The formula of the reply to the American proposals was agreed to by all the European delegates, but with reservations on the part of the Italians. The reply affirms the necessity of maintaining the monetary value of silver as well as gold, but recommends that each State be left free to use either or both, and allow or disallow the free mintage of silver. The Conference was strongly in favor of remonetizing silver. The question of double standard is practically left where it was before. At the close of the conference the American Commissioners entertained the other members of the conference at dinner.

THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR. The fair of the New England Agricultural Society opened at Worcester, Mass., on Tuesday. The arrangements are elaborate and everything indicates the most successful fair ever held by the society. The entries are as follows: Cattle, 187 exhibitors, 838 head; horses, 81 exhibitors, 109 animals; sheep, 16 exhibitors, 75 head; swine, 19 entries, 64 animals; agricultural productions, 16 exhibitors; fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers, very full entries; butter, 15 exhibitors; cheese, 3; agricultural implements, 38; dairy and kitchen utensils, 15; new inventions, 12; carriages, 16; bread, 26; miscellaneous, 118; needlework, embroidery, &c., 1001. Dr. George B. Loring, President, opened the fair at 10 A. M. with an address. On Tuesday afternoon there was a parade and competition of steam fire engines and hose carriages. On Wednesday and Thursday races with purses aggregating $1500.

GOVERNOR RICE OF MASSACHUSETTS has refused to accede to the request of Governor Hampton of South Carolina, to deliver to the authorities of that State Hiram H. Kimpton. Kimpton was formerly State Treasurer of South Carolina and has been indicted in that State with others, for a conspiracy to defraud the State. Governor Rice, after hearing the question argued by the Attorney General of South Carolina for that State and Ex-Gov. Chamberlain for Kimpton, on the opinion of the Attorney General of Massachusetts, declines to give up Kimpton on the ground that Kimpton is not wanted for the crime charged, but for a different purpose.

☞We would recommend all who intend to buy harnesses to call on J. D. Robbins, as he has some very fine ones on hand which he is selling low for cash. All kinds of double and single harnesses made to order upon short notice. You should go and see him before you buy.

☞We desire to especially call the attention of our readers to the Bank Examiner's report of the condition of the Augusta Savings Bank and the Kennebec Savings Bank, which will be found in our advertising columns.

HON. ARTEMUS LIBBEY. Miss Anna K. Gilman, some time ago brought a bill in equity to set aside a deed, which she alleged was wrongfully obtained by Judge Libbey. The case was tried on Thursday last at the United States Circuit Court in Portland, before Judge Clifford of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Judge Fox, of the U. S. District Court. We give a brief statement of the case:

In December, 1859, Nathaniel Gilman, a native of Waterville, but for many years a merchant in New York, died at Waterville, leaving property then estimated at $1,500,000. He had been twice married and had by both wives ten children surviving, among whom his estate was to be divided, share and share alike. By the second wife there survived three brothers and one daughter, Anna K. Gilman.

Members of the older branch of the family had the principal management of the estate, although Miss Gilman was also an executrix under the will, and she and her younger brothers have ever since claimed that they have not been fairly dealt with in the distribution of the estate. In respect to that, litigation is now pending in the New York courts.

In her pleadings submitted to the court, Miss Gilman charges that in May, 1867, she arranged with Judge Libbey to aid her as counsel, the understanding being that he was not to ask any pay until the money was realized from the estate. With this understanding, she says, he proceeded until 1872, when she asked him to present a bill, so that it might be submitted to the Surrogate in New York and allowed by him out of the estate. A bill was then presented for $563. About a year after defendant attached the property in question, claiming an accumulated debt of $900, and, finding Miss Gilman temporarily in this State, served her personally with process. This he did, according to what he told her, to protect the property against other parties, and said all he would do would be to protect his security, and would take no advantage. Relying on that, she says she went to New York and did nothing further in the case, and the result was that he entered judgment against her individually, had the property sold out and bought it in for the amount of his judgment, taking a deed of it from the sheriff. It is to set aside this deed and all the proceedings on which it is based that the present suit was brought in the United States Circuit Court.

Judge Libbey in his answer denies all the material allegations of the plaintiff and claims that Miss Gilman did not meet and arrange with him to act as her counsel until one year after the time she states; that he served her professionally for seven years as an individual, and not as executrix, and that he never agreed to wait for his fees to be allowed out of the estate. He also denies, substantially, Miss Gilman's statements as to the representations made to her after her suit had been commenced. He commenced such suit, he says, to secure himself against a claim of one Baker for $1600, and it was his purpose to allow her to redeem her equity within the time provided by law. In respect to a claim made by the plaintiff that the defendant rendered the judgment under which the property was sold after he was elevated to the bench he says, though the judgment was rendered at a term held by him, he was not sitting on the day on which the judgment was rendered.

The case was heard last Thursday, and Monday the opinion of the court, concurred in by Judges Clifford and Fox, was announced, dismissing the bill with costs for respondent. Both Judges expressed themselves convinced that the evidence removed all shadow of doubt of the uprightness and legality of Judge Libbey's acts in the matter.

Mr. Seward of New York appeared for Gilman, the other counsel on that side being Judge Vanderpool and W. W. Gage of New York, and Hillard, Hyde and Dickinson of Boston. Mr. T. T. Snow of Portland appeared for the respondent.

THE INDIAN TROUBLES. A Umatilla dispatch says that the council met Wednesday. The United States was represented by Generals Howard, Wheaton and Sawtelle, Majors Throckmorton and Mizeur, Capt. Sloden, Lieut. Wood and officers of the station at the agency. The state of Oregon was represented by Gov. Chadwick, Generals Gales and Kunzie, Colonels Miller and Fulton, and Washington Territory by Major McAuliff and Dr J. H. Boyd. Rev. Father Conrody, chaplain of the reservation, and Rev. Mr. Cuen of the Episcopal church were also present.

The Indians were represented by Chiefs Howlish, Wampo, Winnepsnoot and Homelyof the reservation. About 400 settlers and 300 Indians were present, and the commands of Throckmorton and Misner. General Howard stated that the object of the council was to devise means to preserve peace until the meeting of Congress. The Chiefs then spoke in turn, professing friendship and a desire for peace.

On behalf of the citizens throughout the State they said General Howard's course would meet with approval. Howard, then in a pleasant but firm manner, demanded of the chiefs all the Indians who had been engaged in murders and depredations. He said he would hold them or some Indian to be produced by them as hostages until their efforts were exhausted in ferreting out the guilty. When found they were to be turned over to the proper authorities for trial. The order of General Howard was obeyed at once by the chiefs. There is no doubt now of getting at the murderers. Howard will go to Washington and settle the difficulties. The best of order was maintained during the proceedings. The result has sent a feeling of satisfaction over the community. The Indians appreciate the situation as well as the whites, and there is no end of praise of those who have brought about the result.

A BOLD ROBBERY. Friday of last week, at half past one in the afternoon, three men entered the Concordia Savings Bank in Concordia, Missouri, a town of 1,500 inhabitants. One asked the cashier, who was alone, to change a ten dollar bill. While he was changing it another jumped over the counter, caught the cashier by the arm and placed his hand over his mouth. They then took what money was in sight, and putting a pistol to the cashier's head compelled him to open the safe. He did so. They took all the paper money in the safe, between three and four thousand dollars, refusing to take silver, of which there was between $2.000 and $3,000. During the robbery a gentleman was near the bank, and a robber guarding the door called him to advance, instead of which he ran. The robber fired but missed him. They then mounted horses and galloped off. The robbery occupied about ten minutes. They were all mounted on good horses newly shod.

NEW VARIETIES OF FISH DISCOVERY. The Gloucester fishermen are rendering Prof. Baird and the cause of science very valuable assistance by bringing in from the fishing banks many curious kinds of fish taken on their lines and trawls, which has heretofore been their practice to throw away as no value. In this manner much is learned concerning the presence on the grounds visited by our fishermen of Arctic and European fish which have wandered far from their northern and eastern habitats. The schooner Marion, Captain Joseph W. Collins, lately arrived from a bank trip, brought in three strange fish well calculated to delight an enthusiastic savant. Two were of the shark species, entirely new to North America, if not indeed to science. The other was a fish allied to the cod, known to the fishermen as the blue hake, but a new fish to naturalists. It is of the genus haloporphyrus, but is of an undescribed species.

Partridge Bros., druggists, Augusta, have a full line of regular homœpathic medicines, pelletts, etc., and pocket test books for family instruction by the best recognized authors in this school of practice. They pay particular attention to orders by mail for these medicines and books.

☞We received a call this week from Mr. D. B. Dewey, the gentlemanly and efficient advertising agent of the Centaur Company, manufacturers of Centaur Liniment and Castoria.

The National Banks of Augusta.

St. Albans, Sept. 2d, 1878.

EDITORS MAINE FARMER: Under the head of "City News and Gossip," in your issue of Aug. 31, among other things, appears the following statement: "The total amount of taxes paid this year by the three National Banks of the city is nearly eighty-five hundred dollars, being one-fourteenth of the whole city and village district tax." For the benefit of your numerous readers, please answer the following questions in your next issue: How much capital stock is there in the three National banks of your city? How much circulation are they taxed for, to whom is it paid, and what per cent.? How much are they taxed on deposits, the rate per cent., how often, and to whom paid? What is their municipal tax upon this bank stock? Would they not be liable for a municipal tax upon their bank stock if invested in any other business or cash on hand? What is the average rate of interest they charge for money loaned? What interest do they get from Government on their bonds deposited, and who pays that?

A READER.

Answers: The statement in our issue last week relative to the amount of taxes paid by the three National Banks of this city, referred solely to the total amount of taxes paid to the city. Under the banking act, the resident stockholders of this city and the non-State resident stockholders of these three banks are taxed for their bank stock in this city. All other stockholders are taxed for their stock in the towns or cities where they reside, and it is the duty of the Cashier of each bank to notify the assessors of towns or cities of the names of every person in their town or city who is a stockholder in their bank, and the amount of stock owned by him. The First National Bank has TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND CAPITAL, the Granite National has ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND capital, and the Freemans National ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND capital. These banks, like all National banks, are allowed ninety per cent of their capital in bills. They pay once in six months to the United States Treasurer a tax of one half of one per cent. upon their average circulation for the six moths. They pay once in six months to the United States Treasurer a tax of one quarter of one per cent upon their average deposits for the six months. The State, county, city and village school district tax in Augusta this year is TWENTY-FOUR AND A HALF MILLS upon the dollar. Certainly; they would be liable for a municipal tax upon their bank stock if invested in any other property, but not at the same rate; for instance, the shares in these banks, the per value of which is ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, are valued for the purpose of taxation at ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE DOLLARS. Real estate is only valued for the purposes of taxation at seventy per cent. of its market value. Under the law a bank like an individual may charge such rates of interest as they can bargain for with the borrower, not to exceed ten per cent. It would be very difficult to give the average rate of interest. Money can, however, be obtained at the banks on undoubted security, for six per cent. They receive from the U. S. Treasurer the interest upon their bonds of the United States, deposited to protect their bill holders. Some of the bonds draw interest at five per cent.; some at four and a half and some at four per cent.

For the Maine Farmer.

Maine Jersey Cattle Association.

The sixth annual meeting of the Maine State Jersey Cattle Association holden at Grange Hall, Winthrop, August 31, was well attended by members of the Association, and was an occasion of much interest and enthusiasm. After the formal opening of the meeting, president Robbins in the chair, full and quite lengthy reports were submitted by the Directors and Secretary and Treasurer, showing the Association to be in a flourishing and satisfactory condition.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and made choice of the following gentlemen:—C. S. Robbins, Winthrop, President; E. K. Whitney, Harrison, O. Gardiner, Rockland, Vice Presidents; N. R. Pike, Winthrop, Secretary and Treasurer; Charles Kezar, Winthrop, G. W. Quinby, Augusta, L. T. Jones, Winthrop, Directors. N. R. Pike, F. M. Woodward, P. H. Snell, Winthrop, Pedigree Committee.

A paper was then read by president Robbins, subject,—The test, or dairy qualifications that should be required to render Thoroughbred Jerseys eligible to full registration. In the discussion of this subject by dairymen of much practical experience, it was shown that many of the points in the scale adopted by some Jersey cattle associations, and by the M. S. Agricultural Society, were no indications of superior merit, and that actual test is the only reliable criticism by which to judge of a dairy cows value. Owing to want of time and press of other business, this topic was laid on the table.

Earnest appeals was made to the public spirit and laudable pride of Jersey stock owners to contribute to the interest of the approaching State Fair, by an exhibition of their stock; and it is hoped a general response will be made to this invitation, and a better display of this justly celebrated breed of cattle made than has ever been made in the State.—*N. R. Pike, Sec'y., Winthrop, Sept. 2.*

THE TURF. Piscataquis Central Trotting Park, Dexter, Tuesday, 3 minute race: Abbott, 1 1 1; Flora Belle, 2 4 2; Capt. Jenks, 4 2 4; Young General, 3 3 3; Sunshine, 5 5 5; Roger Williams dis. Time, 2.46, 2.41 1-2, 2.45 1-4. The 2.40 race: Franklin, 2 1 1 1; Pomp, 1 2 2 2; Bay Day, 3 3 3 3. Time, 2.41 1-2, 2.47 3-4, 2.47 1-4, 2.51. Free to all races: Camors, 2 3 1 1 1; Pomp, 3 1 3 2 2; Plymouth Rock, 1 2 2 3 3. Time, 2.42 1-2, 2.42 1-4, 2. 40 1-4, 2.41 1-4.

Farmington, August 29. In the race today at Franklin park, in 3 minute class, Winthrop Morrill won first money; time, 2.45, 2.45, 2.47. Frank B. won second money, Kitty Wells third, and Molly Starks fourth. Ben Butler, Red Cloud and Knox Girl distanced. In 2.40 class, Troublesome won first money; time, 2.43, 2.41, 2.41. Little Fred won second money, Rock third, and Gen. Knox fourth.

Farmington, August 30. In the races at Franklin Park, to-day, 2.50 class, Rocket 1st, Lookout 2d, Geo. Knox 3d, Brown Billy 4th, Molly Starks distanced for not carrying weights. Time, 2.45, 2.46, 2.45. In the free for all race Ino was 1st, Geo. Maynard 2d, Boy 3d, Careless Boy and May Burrell distanced. Time, 2.34, 2.34, 2.37. The weather was fine and the attendance very large.

☞Fred Crosby, third son of Ex-Governor Crosby of Belfast, met with a fatal accident at Syracuse, N. Y., on Wednesday, the 21st ult. He was travelling as agent for the Globe Nail Co., and had been at Congress Hall Hotel, in Syracuse, for several days. He had been slightly ill during the day, but went to his room as usual about 10 o'clock, taking a daily newspaper with him. About 2 o'clock, the night clerk heard a fall, and going outside found Mr. Crosby lying on the ground. He said he was hurt and asked to be carried to his room, which was done. A surgeon who was in the house was called, who found that Mr. Crosby was terribly injured, his hip being crushed, arm, leg and ribs broken. He died Friday.

IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE that a remedy made of such common, simple plants as Hops, Buchu, Mandrake, Dandelion, etc., should make so many and such marvellous and wonderful cures as Hop Bitters do, but when old and young, rich and poor, Pastor and Doctor, Lawyer and Editor, all testify to having been cured by them, you must believe and try them yourself, and doubt no longer. See other column.

THE SOUTHERN DESTROYER. The dispatches received daily from the South bring the intelligence that the yellow fever is still raging with all its terrors. At Port Gibson, Miss., 400 cases and 55 deaths out of 550 persons remaining in town are reported. About 1200 have fled. The distress is very great. The sick are dying, with no one to give them a drink of water. Some nurses are on the way from New Orleans and Chicago. Help and funds are needed. At New Orleans on Sunday there were 253 applications for relief made to the Howards. The members of the visiting committee report a general spread of the fever, and state that they find it encroaching upon localities heretofore measureably exempt. C. E. Whitney, one of the committee, reported 23 new cases in his district, and related an incident that occurred at the corner of Race and St. Thomas streets, in the upper part of the First District, which serves to show the rapid spread of the fever in that locality. As he approached the corner he saw six or eight little children there. They appeared to recognize him as one of the Howards, and each appealed to him to go with them to their respective homes to see the sick. He went first to the nearest house pointed out, followed by the little ones; then to the next, the procession getting one less at each house visited until every appeal had been visited. Though the present situation is sad the general impression seems to be that the worst has not yet come. The Ancient Order of Hibernians make an appeal to similar organizations throughout the Union for assistance. They state the yellow fever is thinning their ranks. The distress is pitiful and their resources exhausted, and appeal in God's name for assistance to alleviate the sufferings of their afflicted brethren.

Great complaint is made in New Orleans on account of the persistency of the Catholic churches in tolling bells at funerals to the discomfort and danger of the sick. Fever is encroaching upon localities hitherto measurable exempt, and it is believed the worst has not yet come. The condition of the streets is better than for years, but the high well-drained districts seem to suffer more than the portions not so well favored.

At Memphis Rev. George Harris, Dean of St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, is sick. A man who called to secure Dr. Hodges' services, on opening the door, found Hodges lying helpless from fever. But for this discovery he would have died without attention. Two cases have broken out at Father Mathew Aid Camp, six miles from the city, one of the cleanest and healthiest localities. A number of cases are also reported at Fort Pickering, which has been exempt from epidemic since 1857, when fever depopulated it. The fever has taken entire possession of the city and suburbs. Visitors continue to report finding dead bodies. One was found in the upper story of the Library Building so decomposed that it was impossible to ascertain whether the victim was white or black. The saw mills and lumber dealers having closed, it is thought the Mayor will press all lumber found, to be converted into coffins for the pauper dead. The impression prevails that all whites in Memphis will be attacked. If the fever makes as great drafts on the working organizations during the coming 10 days as it has for the past 10 days nobody will be left to direct the efforts of nurses and the distribution of supplies. Doctors, nurses, undertakers, and even grave diggers, are broken down. It is a common occurence for two or three dead bodies to be found in the same house. The applicants for relief increase daily. It is becoming difficult to maintain order among the mob at the relief office, and supplies are nearly exhausted. All through the South whole families have been completely wiped out of existence by the terrible scourge. One case is reported in New York City; a lady who came with her husband from Memphis ten days ago. The contribution in aid of the fever sufferers are in all parts of the country most generous.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. The Bank Examiner has examined into the condition of the Hallowell Savings Institution, and made up a statement, which by the law is published in the Hallowell paper. The following is an abstract of it: Liabilities, deposits Aug. 25, 1878, $422,267.71; reserve fund, $15,000 00; profits, $3,408.14; unpaid dividends, $548.64; total, $441,224.49. Resources, State and municipal bonds, Maine, $53,448.96; state and municipal bonds, other state, $126.757 50; railroad bonds, Maine, $40,138.42; bank stock, Maine, $5,400.00; real estate, safe and fixtures, $1,000.00, loans on Savings Bank books as collateral, $2,515 81; loans to municipalities, $3,500.00; loans on real estate, $209,703.45; cash on hand and on deposit, $1,760.35; total, $441,224.49. The assets have been carefully examined by the Bank Examiner, and their present market and estimated value is $454,430.61, to which is to be added for interest accrued but uncollected, $16,131.80, making $470.562.11. Deducting all liabilities, except the reserve fund, the surplus above all liabilities is $44,454.32.——Gen. Tilton, at the National Home for disabled soldiers, raised this season from two acres six hundred and fifteen bushels of potatoes, worth two hundred and forty-six dollars. Is not this a paying crop?——In Saturday's shower the barn of David L. Hodgdon in Clinton, was struck by lightning. The fluid struck the end of the barn, going down the boards, and cutting off the hay as though it had been cut by a hay knife. It did not fire the hay or building.——A. M. Spear, formerly a teacher of the Anson Academy has been lately admitted to practice in the Kennebec bar.——There have been some cases of diphtheria in Sidney. Mr. Alonzo Mathews, of the Centre, lost two bright little children from the disease. Silas Hoxie and wife, while riding down Quaker hill, were thrown from their carriage, their horse being frightened, and were quite badly bruised.——There is to be a camp-meeting in China, commencing September 16th, on the land of Mr. Seth Wentworth.——The freight depot of the M. C. R R. in Hallowell is undergoing long needed repairs, and will soon assume respectable proportions.——Col. Nathaniel Chase died at Readfield early Thursday morning of last week, aged 78 years. For many years Col. Chase resided in Sidney, but lately has been a resident of Readfield. He held the office of county commissioner of Kennebec county for six years. He was a man honored and respected wherever known. It was his intention soon to remove to Augusta, and a house was being erected for his occupancy. The deceased was father of Col. M. V. B. Chase of Augusta.——Mr. J. M. Withee of Winslow has purchased the well known Bodfish place on College street, Waterville, next south of Dr. Boutelle's, with the intention of erecting a hotel. The price paid was $4000.——Miss. E. J. Perley of Unity has been elected to the position of Preceptress of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College, at Kent's Hill, Readfield, which place she has accepted, and is to commence her work in November next. Her father is Prof. John Perley, the veteran writing master. Prof. Perley has been for many years the teacher of penmanship at the Kent's Hill school, and still retains his connection with that seminary.——The Sabbath Schools of East Kennebec had a conference and picnic on Friday, Aug. 30th, at the Grove of Togus Asylum.——A road has been laid out to form a new route from South China to Seward's Mills, materially lessening the distance.——The Freshman class at Colby University already numbers sixty—the largest that ever entered there. Three members of the class are young ladies.——The Waterville *Mail* says in Prof. Hall's garden, Waterville, may be seen a stalk of sweet corn which measures 13 feet 3 inches.

Items of Maine News.

Geo. H. Hayes has been elected Cashier of the Frontier National Bank, at Eastport, vice E. J. Noyes deceased.

In the case of Arthur Annetts, indited for robbery of the express office in Dexter a *nol. pros.* has been entered.

Daniel Sanborn of Monroe, fell from the higher beams of his barn a few days since and injured his spine se

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 4.

Amount of stock at market—Cattle 3376; sheep and Lambs 2990; Swine 2860; number Western Cattle 2944; Eastern Cattle 269; Milch Cows and Northern Cattle 163.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $4 25@5 75; first quality $4 62½@5 12½ sec. ond quality $4 25@4 75; third quality $3 75@4 12½; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c. $3 25@3 62½.

Brighton Hides 6½c per lb.; Brighton Tallow 5¼@5½c per lb. Country Hides 5½@5½c per lb.; Country Tallow 4½@4½c per lb. Calf Skins 40@50c per lb; Sheep and Lamb Skins 25@50c each.

The supply of Cattle from the West for the past week has not been of so good grade as those of the previous week. Prices upon the common grades of Beef fell off fully 1c per lb from those of our last quotations. Good Beef Cattle sold at about the same prices they commanded last week. The trade opened quite active yesterday morning for the wholesaling business, but the country butchers did not take hold so actively as they do sometimes, and before night drovers said it was a very dull trade. Included in our number were several hundred head of Cattle which were bought for the English markets, to be shipped this week. There were but a few Beef Cattle brought in from Maine this week.

Working Oxen—For the week there has been a larger supply of Working Oxen in market than the trade required and sales were slow. We quote sales of 1 pr Steers, gth 7 ft 2 in, for $140; 1 pr gth 6 ft $100; 1 pr, gth. 6 ft 4 in. L Wt 2800 lbs, $80; 1 pr. gth 6 ft 2 in, L Wt 2700 lb $30.

Milch Cows—Extra $40@70; ordinary $20@40per head. Most of the Cows offered in market for sale are of a common grade. Trade for common grades has been dull of late. Good cows usually sell well at fair prices.

Store Cattle—Yearlings, $7@12; 2 year olds, $15@25; 3 year olds, $25@45 per head. There were but a few Store Cattle offered in market for sale, most of the small Cattle being bought to slaughter.

Sheep and Lambs—There was a good supply of Sheep and Lambs brought in from the West, several loads of which were for Liverpool. Western Sheep cost from 5½c, and Lambs from 6¾c per lb, landed at Brighton.

Swine—Fat Hogs 8@9c; prices 5½@5¾c per lb live weight.

Chicago Cattle Market.

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.

Hogs—receipts of 19,000 head; shipments 6,500 head; market quiet and weak; Philadelphia at 4 60 at 75; Boston at 4 30@4 50; light at 4 20@4 25; mixed and rough 4 00@4 20.

Cattle—receipts 4,700 head; shipments 2,000 head; few natives here; sales of shipping Steers at 4 00@4 50; butchers shade lower; Cows at 2 60@4 00; Bulls 2 00@3 00; Western Cattle firm at 2 40@4 10; Texas steady at 2 70@3 15.

Sheep—receipts 600 head; shipments 680 head; some European demand at 3 15@3 25.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Sept. 4.

FLOUR AND GRAIN. There is but a limited demand for Flour, as the trade have been supplied for the present by purchases to arrive some weeks ago. New crop winter wheats are in good supply, but there is a scarcity of patents and straight Minnesotas. Supplies of all kinds of spring wheat Flour will soon be coming forward more freely. There is no change in prices. Patents are selling at extreme figures on account of their scarcity, and winter wheats are held at previous prices. The sales have been at $3@3 75 per bbl for Western superfine; $4 25@4 75 for common extras; $4 50@5 50 for Wisconsin extras, and $5 50@6 50 for Minnesota, including choice bakers' brands. In winter wheats the sales have been at $4@5 75 for Michigan. Ohio and Indiana; $5 25@6 for Illinois; and $5 25@6 25 for St. Louis. Southern Flour is dull and scarce. Prices are nominally $5 25@6 75 per bbl for medium and choice family. Patent Wisconsin and Minnesota brands range from $7@9 per bbl. Corn Meal is in fair demand and firm at $2 40@2 50 per bbl. In Rye Flour the sales have been at $5 50@4 per bbl. Oat Meal is in demand, and has been selling at $4 75@5 per bbl for common Western, and $5 25@6 per bbl for favorite and fancy brands. The market is quite firm for Corn, with a steady demand for export and consumption. The sales have been at 54@55c for mixed and yellow, and 56@58c for steamer. No 2 mixed Corn for export, free on board, is nominally 51@52c per bush. Oats have been arriving quite freely, and the market is now well supplied with new, mostly No 2 white. Prices range fro n 30@37c per bush, as to quality, with large sales of No 2 white, for September delivery, at 32c per bush. Old Oats are scarce, and the sales have been small lots at 34@36c per bush, as to quality. In Rye the sales have been small at 63@54c per bush. Shorts have been selling at @16@16 50; and Fine Feed and Middlings range from $17@20 per ton.

PRODUCE. White Beans are steady but have been in moderate demand. Sales of good medium at $1 55@1 60; extra Pea at $1 70@1 80; and Yellow Eyes are scarce and bring $2 35@2 40 per bush. Red Kidneys are nominally $3@3 25 per bush. Potatoes have been arriving more freely and prices have eased off The sales have ranged from $1 50@2 per bbl. as to quality, and from cars at 70c per bush for a good article. Sweet Potatoes are more abundant and prices are easier. The sales have ranged from $2@3 per bbl for Norfolk and Jersey Onions are firmer and have been in better demand. Sales at $1 75@2 per bbl. Grapes are in steady demand and have been selling at $3@3 50 per crate. Apples are plenty and prices are easier. Sales of common and good at $1@1 75 per bbl. Peaches range from $1@1 per crate for common to good; Pears at $8@5 per bbl. for Bartletts, and $1 50@2 50 per bush. for other kinds. Water Melons have been selling at $8@10 per 100.

PROVISIONS. There is very little change in Pork. The demand is moderate, with sales at $10@10 50 for prime; 10 75@11 25 for mess; and 13@14 for clear and extra clear as to quality. The sales of beef have been at 10@12 for mess and extra mess, and 12@12 50 per bbl for family. Lard continues in fair demand and sales at 7½@8c per lb for city and Western as to quality. Smoked Hams are quite firm and continue in demand at full prices. The sales have been at 10½@11c per lb for city and Western, and 12@13c for fancy Western.

HAY. There is a steady demand for hay, and the market remains about the same. Sales of choice have been at $14@15 per ton for old. New hay at 14@15 per ton, loose pressed. Rye Straw at $10@12.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, Sept. 4.

The demand for Wool the past week has been fair. The sales include 200,000 lbs Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces at 35@37c for medium, X XX and above, and 40c is now about all that can be obtained for average lots of XX; 200,000 lbs Michigan fleece at 32@35c per lb for medium and X, principally from 32 a 33c per lb, and average lots of Michigan cannot be quoted at over 32c per lb; 100,000 lbs medium Maine fleece at 36c for washed and 26c for unwashed; 60,000 lbs coarse and good Western fleeces at 35@36c; 250,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleece at 17@20c, as to quality; 150,000 lbs combing and delaine fleeces at 37@38c for coarse and good medium selections; 250,000 lbs California at 18@20½c for spring and 16@ a18c for fall; 100,000 lbs super and X pulled at 29@38c; 20,000 lbs scoured at 38@50c; 25,000 lbs nolls at 35@42c; and 10,000 lbs odds and ends on private terms.

New York Dairy Market.

UTICA, Sept. 2.

The anticipations of producers that the market would continue to stiffen have been realized by the transactions of the week. The check in prices, due largely to the extraordinary receipts of the week before, was counteracted, and a better feeling generally prevailed, resulting in higher prices than have been realized in some time. The outlook still continues promising for producers, and the prospects are that during the coming week cheese will be no lower.

The market to day was active in closing transactions, and prices were considerably higher. The offering was about the same as last week, aggregating 15,000. These were all disposed of at a satisfactory advance over last week's figures. A characteristic of the market was the directness of the sales. There were few sales at "the leading," "the extreme," "the average" or on "private terms," transactions that have too often complicated the market. Following were the sales:

2 588 boxes on commission, 1,200 boxes at 7½c; 404 boxes at 7¾c; 1,393 boxes at 8c; 50 boxes at 8¼c; 2,585 boxes at 8½c; 336 boxes at 8¾c; 3,972 boxes at 8¾c; 400 boxes at 9c. Total 12,833 boxes.

Following is the New York trade of last week as compared with that of the corresponding week last year:

	Receipts.	Exports.	Gold.	Top Price.
1877,	108,693	77,451	1 01	10a11c.
1878,	107,884	64,173	1.00½	81c

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.

Money was active at 2@11 per cent. on call. Gold opened at 100½ and closed at 100½.

United States Sixes (coupons), 1881,		108½
" " " 1865, (new)		102½
" " " 1867,		105¾
" " " 1868,		107½
" " New 5's,		106½
" " 10.40's (coupons),		106½
" " Currency 6's,		120

Augusta City Market.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 4.

APPLES—Dried 8 a10c evaporated, 15a20c.

BEANS—Pea beans $1 60 Yellow Eyes $2 00.

BUTTER—Good butter sells for 15a17c.

CHEESE—New Factory made 9a8c.

FLOUR—$6 00a9 00 ₩ bbl.

GRAIN—Corn 58a60c; oats 40a—c.

HAY—Very plenty in market and sales the past week at 13a16.

HONEY—Choice Aroostook honey 25a30c per box.

HIDES AND SKINS—Hides 5c; calf skins 10a10—c; lamb skins 25a75c; deacons 25c; shearlings 10a 15c.

LIME AND CEMENT—95c per cask for lime, $2 for cement.

NATIVE CRANBERRIES—3 00 per bush.

MEAL—Corn 56a58c; rye @1 25.

PRODUCE—New potatoes are quite plenty at 40a 45c. per bush.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork @8 00a10 00; round hogs 6c; beef per side 7a9c; ham 10a11c; fowls 8 a10c; spring lambs 7a8c; veal 5a6c.

SHOOKS—@1 25 per hundred pounds.

WOOL—Washed 32c; unwashed 25c.

WOOD—Soft mill wood @1 75a2 25 per cord delivered in the city.

Portland Market.

THURSDAY, Sept 5.

APPLES—@1 50a 200 per bbl. Dried 5a7c per lb.

BUTTER—17a20c for family; store, 10a15c per lb.

BEANS—Pea @1 90 a2 00; yellow eyes @2 75@ 3 45.

CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory 7½@9c.

FISH—Large shore $3 75a4 00; large bank $4 25a 4 50; small $3 25a3 50; pollock @1 50a1 75; haddock @1 75a1 50; herring, scaled 12a12½c per box; mackerel per bbl—bay No. 2 to No. 1, @11 50 a17 50; shore Nos. 1, 2 and 3 @8 00a17 50.

FLOUR—Superfine $3 50a4 00; spring X and XX $4 75a5 75; Michigan winter X and XX $6 00a5 75; patent spring wheat 7 00a8 00; St. Louis X and XX to best $5 50 a7 25.

GRAIN—Corn 55a57c; bag lots 58@58c per bush; oats 40a45; fine feed $24a24 00 per ton; shorts 19 00 ₩ ton.

HAY—Loose $12a13 per ton; pressed $11 00a12 00; straw $6a8 per ton.

LARD—Per tierce 8@8½c per lb; per keg 8½@8½; pail 10½@9.

PLASTER—White portion $3.00; Blue $75; ground in bbls $8 00a9 00; calcined in bbs $3 75@3 00.

PRODUCE.—Beef side 7@9c; veal none, mutton 9a 11c; chickens 10a12c; turkeys 14a15c; eggs 14a15c; potatoes New, 60c per bush.

PROVISIONS—Chicago extra beef 10 50a12 50; pork backs $14 50a14 75; clear $14 00a13 75; mess $12 50a13 lams 11a14c per lb; round hogs 6a6½c.

Bangor Produce Market.

SATURDAY, Aug. 31.

BEANS—Yellow eyes $2 00a2 10 per bush; pea $1 90 a2 00

BUTTER—11a14c per lb.

EGGS—12a13per doz.

HAY—$7a13 per ton; pressed 12a14.

GRAIN—Oats 33a35c per bush; corn 55a56c.

POTATOES—New Potatoes are quite plentiful and are selling at 35a40 per bush.

PROVISIONS—Pork 13 00a16 00 per bbl; round hogs 4a5c per lb; fresh beef per side 5a7c; lamb 7a9 mutton 7a8c.

HIDES AND SKINS—Lamb skins 30a35c each; hides 4c per lb; veal skin 10a12c per lb.

WOOL—Fleece wool 20a28c per lb.

☞ How many suffer constantly in some form, the maladies that result from the errors of youth, and would give all they possess to be restored to sound and vigorous health so necessary to physical and mental enjoyment. Let such consult, in our columns the advertisement of the "Peabody Medical Institute," setting forth the character of the medical works published by it.

Foreign News.

London, August 29. A Vienna dispatch says: "All that is known here about General Szapary is that his position is critical. Disaster to him would threaten General Philippovich also. Reinforcements go forward slowly."

It is reported that the Austrian council of Ministers held on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Emperor, accepted Andrassy's project of a Convention, which will probably be signed this week.

Vienna, August 29. Further mobilization is imminent, whereby Gen. Philipovich's corps will be raised to 170,000 or 180,000 men. The transportation of troops and war material over the Southern Railway is so great that other traffic is suspended.

London, August 29. A Berlin special says the Russians and Bulgarians had a sanguinary fight at Jamboli because the Russians endeavored to stop the maltreatment of Jews and Turks. Many Russians and Bulgarians were killed.

Rome, August 30. The Liberta Opinion, Economists d'Italia and the Gazetta di Venezia argue that the establishment of Austria on the Albanian coast renders the possession of Trieste necessary to the maintenance of Italy's commercial position in the Adriatic.

Quebec, Aug. 30. The Government iron steamship Lady Head, recently wrecked near Fox River, which carried Sir Edmund Head, then Governor of Canada, and Prince Alfred from Gashe, Pictou and Charlottetown in 1861, has been sold at auction for $650. She cost £22,000 sterling.

Glasgow, Aug. 30. The iron masters of West Scotland have agreed to notify their employes of a reduction of 10 per cent. on their wages.

Regusa, Aug. 31. The whole of Herzegovina from Narenta river to the town of Djubingo, has been subjugated, the petty chief submitting. One thousand insurgents are massing at Trebenji.

Belgrade, Aug. 31. The ministerial crisis has been settled. The ministers who tendered their resignations remain in office.

Vienna, Aug. 31. The town of Miskolcz, the capital of the circle of Bosrod, in Hungary, was almost entirely laid waste Friday night by a storm. One thousand houses were destroyed by the rainfall and 100 persons were killed. The population of the place is estimated at 20,000.

London, Sept. 2. A Constantinople dispatch of August 30th says according to authentic information direct from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Austrians are acting with great energy, with moderation and perfect discipline.

The report is circulated that the army of occupation has been guilty of many excesses and cruelties. These accusations bear similar resemblance to the charges brought against the Russian army in Bulgaria and Roumania. This explains, perhaps, the change which was recently made in the attitude of the Austrians in the Rhodope commission.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 2. Several newspapers report Schouvaloff about to be appointed chief of the new ministry of police, including the gendarmie and the police administration, hitherto under control of the minister of the interior.

Prince Orloff, ambassador at Paris, will succeed Schouvaloff at London. Noulkoff, ambassador at Vienna, will go to Paris. Prince D'Aubrill, ambassador at Berlin, will go to Vienna.

Ragusa, Sept. 2. The Mahomedan population of Kolaschin have taken possession of the fortifications, after a conflict with two battalions of Turkish Regulars. The latter subsequently proceeded to Navihazar, whither the majority of the Turkish Regulars in Bosnia are also marching.

☞ At the Minnesota State Fair held at St. Paul, this week, machinery was erected for the purpose of manufacturing and granulating sugar obtained from the stalks of a certain variety of Indian corn. It is said that successful experiments of this kind have already been made in two counties of Minnesota, and that the manufacturing operations at the State Fair, were more in the nature of a demonstration than a trial. The sugar thus obtained is said to compare favorably in quality with that sent from Cuba. But the important point to be ascertained is whether the maize sugar can be manufactured in large quantities at a sufficiently low price to compete with that from the sugar-cane. Sugar can be obtained from a great variety of plants, both vegetable and fruit, if any one is willing to pay the cost of manufacture. Indian corn was used as a source of sugar before the Spanish invasion of England, and a factory near Toulouse, in the south of France, is mentioned where about 20,000 pounds are annually obtained from this plant.

☞ In 1877 about 14,000 different works were published in Germany, containing upward of 20,000 volumes, written by 10,000 authors. Of these, 1,253 were devoted to theology; 1,329 to statistics and political legislation; 1,629 to education and school purposes; 755 to medicine; 940 to natural science, &c.; 372 to biographies, encyclopædias and belles-lettres; 163 to philosophy; 485 for the young; 520 to the classical, Oriental and ancient studies; 445 to modern languages; 166 to astronomy; 739 to history; 311 to geography; 166 to mathematics and astronomy; 347 to military science; 525 to industry and commerce; 378 to navigation, architecture and engineering; 133 to forest culture, fisheries, &c; 392 to agriculture and horticulture; 1,666 to fiction and general literature; 17 to masonry; 336 charts and maps, and 597 miscellaneous,—total, 13,925 works.

☞ The August report of the Illinois State Board of Agriculture gives the area, production and total value of the winter wheat crop as follows: Area for 1878, in acres, 2,032,813; yield in bushels, per acre, 14 3-4; yield in bushels, 30,013,147; value of crop, $23,870,357. The county producing the greatest number of bushels is Clinton, 2,426,205; the least number, Woodford, 2,320. The highest number of bushels per acre, is accorded to Winnebago and Ogle, 24 bushels; next come Stephenson and Rock Island, 23 bushels; and third, Marion, Jo Davis and Carroll, 22 bushels. The least number per acre is credited to Pope, 5 1-2 bushels; and following close behind are Massac, 6; Gallatin, 7 1-2; Williamson, 8; Hamilton, 8 1-2; Alexander, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson and Saline, 9.

☞ Among a lot of green corn brought to the Baltimore market the other day was an ear that forcibly recalled Pharaoh's dream. What seemed to be a very large ear while in the husk proved to be a medium sized ear with several smaller ones growing around it. All were well grained, and if they had been permitted to mature one stalk would have yielded eight tolerably fair ears of corn. According to the interpretation put upon Pharaoh's dream by Joseph, this abnormal ear of corn would seem to indicate eight years of plenty.

☞ A treasure has just been discovered in the ancient ducal palace of Andria, near Naples. It consists of four hundred thousand ducats, about $100,000 in gold. The present owner, in examining a plan of the building, noticed a door marked where none now exists. He had the wall pierced, and found an entrance into a chapel, in which was despoisted a coffer containing the coin. It had been concealed there by the Duke d'Andria when he emigrated to Germany at the time of the French invasion of Italy.

☞ Collectors of Customs have been directed to obtain from masters of fishing vessels reports showing the quantity and kind of fish taken by them within three miles from the shores of Canada. The form of report requires value of fish to be given exclusive of cost of barrels, salt, packing and inspection, tonnage of vessel, number of crew and time employed. Collectors will furnish with such return, a list of vessels licensed for fisheries in their district.

MISERABLENESS. The most wonderful and marvellous success in cases where persons are sick or pining away from a condition of miserableness, that no one knows what ails them, (profitable patients for doctors,) is obtained by the use of Hop Bitters. They begin to cure from the first dose and keep it up until perfect health and strength is restored. Whoever is afflicted in this way need not suffer when they can get Hop Bitters. See "Truths" and "Proverbs" in another column.

HOW FAT CAN A PERSON BECOME!

Mirabeau, alluding to a very corpulent person, said, "He has only been created to show to what extent the human skin would stretch without bursting." Then corpulence was *believed* to be a *natural condition*; now it is known to be a disease. Hundreds who had considered themselves useless for life, by reason of too much fat, have, by the use of Allan's Anti-Fat been reduced to a healthy and natural size. This great remedy for corpulence is purely vegetable and perfectly harmless. It acts on the food in the stomach, preventing its being converted into fat. It cures indigestion and tones up the system. Sold by druggists.

The Stepping Stone to Health.

The acquisition of vital energy is the stepping stone to health. When the system lacks vitality, the various organs flag in their duty, become chronically irregular, and disease is eventually instituted. To prevent this unhappy state of things, the debilitated system should be built up by the use of that inimitable tonic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters which invigorates the digestive organs, and insures the thorough conversion of food into blood of a nourishing quality, from whence every muscle, nerve and fiber acquire unwonted supplies of vigor, and the whole system exercieuces the beneficial effect. Appetite returns, the system is refreshed by healthful slumber, the nerves grow strong and calm, the despondency begotten of chronic indigestion and an uncertain state of health and that sallow appearance of the skin peculiar to habitual invalids, and persons deficient in vital energy is replaced by a more becoming tinge.

Special Notices.

In the Whole History of Medicine

no preparation has ever performed such marvellous cures, or maintained so wide a reputation, as AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL, which is recognized as the world's remedy for all diseases of the throat and lungs. Its long-continued series of wonderful cures in all climates has made it universally known as a safe and reliable agent to employ. Against ordinary colds, which are the forerunners of more serious disorders, it acts speedily and surely, always relieving suffering, and often saving life. The protection it affords, by its timely use in the throat and lung disorders of children, makes it an invaluable remedy to be kept on hand in every home. No person can afford to be without it, and those who have once used it never will. From their knowledge of, its composition and effects, Physicians use the CHERRY PECTORAL extensively in their practice, and clergymen recommend it. It is absolutely certain in its remedial effects, and will always cure where cures are possible.

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, Bible House, N. Y. 1y41

The Centaur Liniments are of two kinds. **The White** is for the human family; the **Yellow** is for horses, sheep, and other animals. Testimonials of the effects produced by these remarkable Preparations are wrapped around every bottle, and may be procured of any druggist, or by mail from the Office of THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 46 Dey Street, New York City. 1y10

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

ABSOLUTELY PURE.

"ROYAL" has a larger sale than all other baking powders combined—because of its unquestioned Purity, Uniform Strength, Healthfulness and Efficacy. Prepared from GRAPE CREAM TARTAR imported expressly for this purpose from the Vineyards of France—it has received the endorsement and recommendation of the New York Board of Health, and of eminent physicians and scientific men everywhere. No family having once used the Royal Baking Powder will ever be without it.

Sold only in tin cans.

☞ The housekeeper must bear in mind that a pure powder like the Royal cannot be bought at the same price as the adulterated kinds. 36ly

Married.

In this city, Aug. 31, Welman Curtis to Maria J. McFarland; Joseph Loon to Flora J. Kaler.

In Ashland, Aug. 21, Wilbur L. Bartlett to Ida M. Clayton.

In Bangor, Aug. 28, Chas H. Taylor to May L. Darling; Aug. 21, Chas. L. Holt to Frocela S. White; Aug. 22, E. E. Bagley of Burnham, to Nellie L. Wright of Troy; 31, Dennison Walker of Pittsfield, to Flora B. Simpson of Sebec.

In Bath, Aug 27, Allen C. Cobb of Lynn, Mass; to Mary H Small; Aug. 28, Milton D Spinney of Georgetown, to Abbie A. Jewett of Augusta; Aug. 25, Frederick Billings to Lizzie Haggett.

In Bridgewater, Aug. 24, Hon. John R. Weed of Littleton, to Annie L. Goodell

In Buckfield, Aug. 27, Byron Dunn to Sarah M. Gurney

In Bucksport, Aug. 25, James G. Seavy of Brooklyn, to Sadie E. Simpson.

In Calais, Aug. 18, James G Williston to Susan Larmer, both of Middleton, N B.

In Camden, Aug. 24, Ruel K. Thomas to J. Wooster, of N. Haven; Aug. 14, W. H. Ott to Mary J. Tilden.

In Cherryfield, Aug. 17, Joseph Y. Harrington to Josephine A. Sprague; Rowell F. Lawrence to Harriet F. Sprague.

In Chesterville, July 25, Henry Mason of Fayette, to Rena M. Folsom of Vienna; Aug. 24, L. J. Berry to Deborah Tinkham, both of Anson.

In Charlottetown, P. E I., Aug. 20, Angus McLeod to Latie McRae, Point Prim.

In Clinton, Aug 24, Chas. S. Mason to Lillah M. Wells.

In Dennysville, Aug. 14, John Shehan to Mrs. Sarah Shaw

In Deering, Sept. 1, Geo. E. Brown of Portland, to Susie I. Patrick.

In East Eddington, Aug. 22. Wm. P. Shaw to Jolie M Parsons; Aug. 26, Isaac Dunning to Sarah J. Mills

In E. Fryeburg, Aug. 24, Noah J. Pendexter to Mrs. Mary B ooks.

In E. waterboro, Aug. 21, Mellen Woodman of Minneapolis, Minn, to Mary H. Talbot; Aug 10, J. W. Nicho son to Ella B. Fritts.

In F Readfield, Aug 23 Octavius A. Brajnard of San Francisco, Cal, to Ruth A. Flanders of Cornville, Me.

In Edmunds, Aug. 4, Frederick M. Smith of Cooper to Sarah E. Abbott.

In Ellsworth, Aug. 10. Perry S. Bowden to Ellen E. Coughlin; Aug 24, Rufus Hodgkins of Lamoine, to Eva G Joy, of Hancock.

In Georgetown, P. E I., Aug. 21, Forquil McLeod to Christy McLean, both of Little Sands.

In Gorham, Aug. 8, Chas. Graffam of Buxton to Annie Ridion of Hollis.

In Gouldsboro, Aug 24, Wm. W. Poung to Lizzie J. Young.

In Gray, Aug. 25, Jas. H. Colley, to Ada M Ellis.

In Isleseboro, Aug. 21, Ellis J. Dodge to Walter C. Dodge.

In Lincolnville, Aug. 17, F. A. Richards to Mattie J. Richards.

In Mexico, June 10, Edward G. Kelton formerly of Philadelphia, to Hattie A. Braglon of Bangor.

In N. Bluehill, Aug. 28, Willis G. Brown of Orrington, to Louis J. Holt.

In N. Brooklyn, Aug. 21, Benj. P. Spear to Abbie A. Carter.

In N Sedgwick, Aug. 20, Frank McIntire to Ida M. Stover, both of Bluehill; Aug. 22, Robert G. Gray of Bluehill, to Emma J. Eaton.

In Orneville, Aug. 28, Albert H. Chase to Mary M. Farnham, both of Atkinson.

In Orono, Aug. 26, Sumner F. Mitchell to Emma Lane, both of Oldtown.

In Portland, Aug. 27, Willis A. Putnam of Harrington, to Katie J. Fullerton of Hopewell, N. B; Aug 29, Wm H. Parker of Buxton, to Leonora M. Paine of Standish; 29, Wm. F. Shaw of Boston to Hattie Robinson; Sept 1, R. A. Doyle of Boston, to Mrs. Carrie A. Houston of Lowell Mass 2, Leroy Hutchins to Mary McElroy, both of Cape Elizabeth.

In Presque Isle, Aug. 24, Geo. G Giuerson to Emma E. White, both of Andover, N. H.

In Rockland, N. S., Aug. 20, John A. Scott, of Pugwash River, to Maggie F. Matheson. of Waterville; Aug 21, Geo. W. Colburn to Mary B Black.

In Rockland, Aug. 17, Edward E. Rankin to Amelia Bridges

In River Herbert, N. S. Aug. 21, Geo. Downey, of Minudie, to Emma A. Finney.

In San Francisco, Cal July 15, Philip H. Mass, M. D., to Mary B. Macfarlane of Camden Me; Aug. 15, D. F Campbell, formerly of Red Point, P E I. to Cicely McDonald, formerly of Big Pond, P E I.

In Searsmont, Aug. 23, Herbert A. Ryon to Esther Hall.

In Sullivan, Aug. 25, Chas. H. Inman to Lilar A. Carter of Bluehill.

In Summerside, P. E. I., Aug 26. Wm. B. Morrison of Charlottetown, to Agnes Muirhead.

In St Peter's Bay, P. E. I., Angus D. McLeod of Rona, Lot 62, to Catherine Matheson.

In Windsor, Aug 24, John S. Kellen to Helena M. Pierce, both of Boston. Mass.

In Wilton, Sept. 1, Wm. Lynn to Luella H. Green.

Died.

In Addison, Aug. 15, Mrs. Eliza Talbot, aged 78 years.

In Alberton, P. E I., Aug. 19, Mrs Ellen Reid.

In Alfred, Aug. 20, Bessie R. Day, aged 3½ years

In Athens, Aug. 14, Thomas A. Hight, aged 85 yrs.

In Auburn, Aug. 29, Maggie D. Grant of St. Stephens, N B, aged 18 years; Aug. 28, Perley Haskell, Holmes, aged 7 mos.; Nellie A. Linscott, aged 30 years

In Bangor, Aug. 26, Geo. T. Mathews. aged 30 years; Sept. 1, Chas. Milliken, aged 1½ years.

In Bar Harbor, Aug 25, Geo W. Lee, aged 75 yrs.

In Benning, N. B., Aug. 9. John Flood, aged 38 yrs

In Bass Harbor, Tremont. O. s. Richardson

In Bath, Aug. 30. Mrs. Hannah Sonia, aged 26 yrs; Aug. 31, Mrs Mary J. Curtis, aged 46 years; Eugene L. Holbrook, aged 12 years; Ralph B. Sadler, aged 8 mos.

In Biddeford, Aug. 21, Carrie Edgecomb, aged 16½ years; Aug 19, Bertha M., Hutchisson, aged 2 yrs.

In Black Hawk, Col., Aug. 10, Geo. Ross, of New London, P. E. I.

In Bonny Eagle, Aug. 20, Chester M. Berry, aged 1 year; Aug. 25, Mrs. Emily U Hatch, aged 26 yrs.

In Buxton, Aug 20, Earnest E. Smith, aged 1 yr.

In Camden, Aug 25, Bessie C Currier, of 371 years; Aug. 22, Philander J. Upham. aged 5 mos.; Aug. 24, Mrs. Nancy L. McCobb, aged 48½ years.

In Cape Elizabeth, Aug. 29, Mary Cotton, aged 70½ years.

In Charlottetown, P. E. I., Aug. 23, Mrs. Charlotte A. Ridgeway, aged 65 years; Aug. 14, Mary Johnston, aged 82 years; Aug. 16, Lauretta Adelaide, Palmer, aged 2 years.

In Clinton, Aug. 30, Mrs. Moses Cain, aged 75 yrs; Mrs. Julia Gago, aged 73 years.

In Chelsea, John S. Tenney, aged 7 years.

In Corinna, Aug. 29, Geo. A. Young, aged 20½ years.

In Dayton, Aug. 3. Oliver Dow, aged 67½ years; Aug. 19, Mrs. Huldah Carlton, aged 46 years.

In E. Livermore, Aug. 25, Jennie L. Young, aged 2½ years.

In E. Monmouth, Aug. 25, Mrs. Hannah W. Sanborn, aged 42 years.

In Eden, Aug 30, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Grover, aged 39½ years.

In Ellsworth, Aug. 21, Mrs. Maria A. Smith, aged 30½ years

In Hallowell, Aug. 24, Florence Grindall, aged 1½ years.

In Hermon, Aug. 21, Capt J. Cowan, aged 84½ yrs.

In Hope, Aug. 26, Col Asa Payson. aged 94½ yrs.; Aug. 23, Mrs. Achsah Chase, aged 80 years.

In Holden, Sept. 2, Mrs. Adeline H. Griffith, aged 60 years

In Isleseboro, Aug. 22, Mrs. Eliza Harlow, aged 23 years.

In Kennebunk, Aug. 18, Prudence Littlefield, aged 85 years; Sarah F. Knight, aged 35 years; Aug 20, Joshua Treadwell, aged 84½ years

In Lewiston, Aug 30, Mrs Elizabeth Newton, aged 59 years

At Linkletter Road, P. E. I., Aug. 30, Mrs. Margaret Gould, aged 44 years.

In Lisbon, Aug. 21, Mrs. Mary Emmons, aged 64½ years

In Lyman, Aug. 21, Arthur L. Jelleson, aged 16 years.

In Margate, Aug. 17, Geo. Wiggington. aged 81 years.

In Maysville, Aug. 26, Cora Bean, aged 9 years.

At Morril's Corner, Deering, Aug. 30, Mrs. Mary Allen, aged 78 yrs.

In New Orleans, Aug. 22, Jeremiah Simpson, aged 51 years, formerly of Bangor.

In No. Anson, Aug. 17, Rosabel Vallier, aged 6 years.

In No Shapleigh, Elijah Grant, aged 91½ years

In No. Windham, Nellie L. Chapman, aged 2 yrs.

In Norridgewock, Aug 15, Mrs. Mary M. Wood.

At New Glasgow Road, P. E. I., Aug. 22, Thomas M. Bowen, aged 55 years.

In Oakland, Cal., Aug. 4, A. P. Alexander, formerly of Topsham, aged 57 yrs.

At Ocean Springs, Miss., Frederick H. Strout of Portland, aged 38 years

On board ship John DeCosta, Aug. 22, Marietta G. wife of Capt. Chas T. Musans.

In Portland, Aug. 29, Cleo C. Sturdivant aged 4½ years; Aug. 25, Wm. F. Smith; Aug. 27, Genevine Foote, aged 2½ years; Mrs. Lydia Manuel, aged 33 years; 26, Henry J. Goodrich, a vet 3 mos; 28, Jos. R. Brazier, aged 70 years; 31, Henry S. Pearson, aged 89½ years; Rose Bannon, aged 34 years; 31, Jos. H. Gill, aged 27½ years; Sept. 2 Mrs. Maria F. Colby, aged 50 years.

In Polo, Ill., Aug 12, Nathaniel Perley. formerly of Livermore Me., aged 76 years.

In Rowan, P. E. I., Aug 23, Lillie I. McRae, aged 1½ years

In Presque Isle, Aug. 24, Beniah Pratt, aged 74½ years; 17, Phebe F. Whitney, aged 33½ years.

In Pugwash, N S, Michael Walsh

In Rockland, Aug. 28, Willard L. Sherer, aged 24½ years; 23. Capt M. M. Pillsbury, aged 33½ years; 23, Stephen Prescott, aged 87½ years; 24, Rob't Ferris, aged 42½ years; Eva Newhall, aged 4 mos.; Wm. Ferry, jr., aged 77½ years.

In Rochester, N. H., Aug. 25, Mrs. Ellen O. Sanderson, aged 28 years.

In Saco, Aug 30, Mary A. Langley, aged 10 mos.; Marietta A Dennett, aged 34 years.

In Sanford, Aug 7, Nancy Clark, aged 33½ years

In Sanford Corner, Aug. 18, Freddie A. Emery, aged 1½ years.

In Scarboro, Aug. 29, Freddie A. Libby, aged 1½ years.

In Shapleigh, Aug. 9, Luther Thompson, aged 67 years.

At Shueyville, Iowa., Aug 17, Abigail T. Stanchfield, formerly of Pembroke, Me

In Springfield, Aug 25, Rev. A. N. Haggett.

In Springvale, Aug. 19, Dea. Ferdinand A. Butler, aged 40 years.

At Souris, P. E. I., Aug. 7, Roland McCormac, aged 87 years.

In S. Thomaston, John E. Hix, aged 2½ years.

In S. Waldoboro, Aug. 16, Mrs Sarah S. Hunt, aged 49½ years.

In Starks, Aug. 11, Gertrude Miles, aged 17 years.

In Stockton, Aug. 12, Geo. N. Staples, aged 69 years.

In Sumner, Aug. 17, Capt. James Jordan, aged 71 years

In Thomaston, Aug. 21, James Mero, aged 74 yrs.

In Waldo, Aug. 18, Hattie W. Blood. aged 3 wks.

In W. Buxton, Sept. 1, Hattie N, Bradbury, aged 18½ years.

STATE OF MAINE.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE,
Augusta, Aug 29th, 1878.

To the Inhabitants of Augusta qualified by law to vote.

You are hereby notified to assemble at your respective Ward Rooms on Monday, September 9th, A. D. 1878, at 9 o'clock, A. M., then and there to give in your votes for the following officers, viz: For a Governor of the State, for two Senators for the Seventh Senatorial District, for two Representatives for the Legislature, for a County Commissioner, County Treasurer, and Sheriff and Representative to Congress for the 3d Congressional District The polls will be closed at 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Board of Aldermen of said city will be in session at their rooms on Thursday and Friday next preceding said day of election, from 10 o'clock, A. M. till 12 o'clock M., and on Saturday from 10 A. M., till 12 M., and from 2 till 4 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of correcting the lists of voters in and for the several wards, and receiving evidence of the qualification of voters whose names are not on said lists. W. W. MORSE, City Clerk.

KENNEBEC ss., SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT, August Term, 1878.

John H. Rogers vs. John H. Rogers.

And now it appearing by the allegation of the libelant under oath that the defendant has left the State, that she does not know his place of residence, and has used reasonable deligence to ascertain it, but without success, it is ordered, that notice of the pendency of this libel be given to said defendant by causing an attested copy of this order, together with an abstract of the libel, three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, in County of Kennebec, the last publication to be not less than thirty days before the next term of this court, to be holden at Aug

Poetry.

"Summer's Dying."

As I wander 'neath the trees,
The leaves, rustling in the breeze,
Seem to my ear as sighing;
And listening, I can hear
Their murmuring voice more clear,
Whispering, "Summer's dying."

With the dancing of the brook
In and out of shady nook,
Ever onward wildly flying;
Comes a voice from out the roar,
Heard repeating o'er and o'er,
"Summer's dying."

As the bird on highest tree,
Pouring forth sweet melody
With all other music vieing,
Catches sounds all Nature brings,
It, too, low and sadly sings,
"Summer's dying."

When the sands of life run fast,
When the days of youth are past,
And toward Heaven's goal we're flying,
May we by our deeds of merit,
Show we heed the whispering spirit,
That tells us, "Summer's dying."

Our Story Teller.

HER HOLIDAY.

Yes, it was to be her holiday—"all for her." Nobody else was to have any share in it except myself—that is, if going as her courier, paymaster, and general factotum, could be called having a share in a holiday.

We had been married nearly ten years, and what with the cares of home and the training of numerous olive branches, she had never had any chance of a rest. Of course, we had been to the sea-side frequently, and all that sort of thing; but then, surrounded by children and nurses, these trips had only been a continuation of the general London responsibilities, plus the worries and inconvenience of lodgings or hotels. Moreover, within the last few years there had been some trouble in her family, which had acted very prejudicially upon her sensitive and high-strung nature. So now we were going away alone—going to leave all the children at home in the charge of grandmamma—were going abroad for six weeks together wherever she liked. Her will was to be paramount; I was to be her slave—to pay the bills and look after the luggage. Her affectionate and untiring devotion to her duties deserved no less. She had thoroughly qualified herself for enjoying a holiday; she had earned it. "Italy," she said, "where there was sunlight beauty and quiet." Good! I waived my magician's wand, rubbed the lamp, or spread the carpet, or did any of those things which necromancers of yore were wont to do when desiring to be transported to distant places—or, rather I resorted to the modern golden equivalent for such proceedings—and we found ourselves certainly, as if by magic, at Lucerne. Thence we were to take it easy, and so jogged along over the St. Gothard Pass, and dropped into Italy at the Locarno end of the Lago Maggiore.

By this time she was beginning to enjoy herself thoroughly; she had got over the fatigue, and already looked much as she did the day I married her. Yes, it was very delightful to see her so well and so happy.

"Why, it is like a honeymoon over again, or rather it is as if there had been no break, and that it was only the continuation of those early days."

We spent hours and hours on the lake, beneath the awnings of the flat-bottomed boats, those first inceptions of the gondola, or we wandered up to the picturesque old convent or sanctuary of the Madonna del Sasso, set like a jewell amid the blue hills behind the town.

And there in the soft autumn evenings we sat and watched the glorious sunset, and the boundless panorama of alp, plain lake, while the bell in the campanile hard by called the peasantry to vespers, and the pealing of the deep-toned organ resounded through the choir.

We selected Locarno as a halting place, because it was so that time, and is so partly still, out of the rush of the tourist. A primitive place, with simple civil people willing to serve and oblige honestly, and without having for the first question in their minds, "What shall we get by it?" Thus we came to know some of them living up there near the sanctuary, and speak or nod when we met from time to time.

Notably among these was a mother and child—a sweet little chubby cherub of a boy about four. The Italian folk in the north there are not as a rule handsome, but this mother was an exception, and the child was like her. Superior too, in all respects, she looked better born, bred and nurtured; nay, there was even a look of culture and refinement about her.

I immediately attracted by this pair, my wife particularly would lose no opportunity of giving the little one a pat and a kiss, and of exchanging a pleasant word or two in the best Italian she could muster with the mother, who by degrees on her part began to speak a little English, and to take us into her confidence. She explained that she had married an Englishman, a gentleman, she declared, who had died suddenly, more than four years ago, and just before the little one was born. His family never knew of the marriage; he had intended, she said, to proclaim it, and face the consequences of the *mesalliance*, as it would be called; but this sudden end prevented this, and to this day she believed her existence even was unknown to her husband's people. But she did not care; he had left her just enough to live upon; and she had come to dwell at Locarno, where her aged father lived, and whose last days she desired to soothe. She was contented with the humble life she had led there in yonder little wooden chalet—at least, until the good God should take him to his rest.

Would we enter the abode and speak to her father? He was a very handsome old man, a native of Tuscany who had seen better days. But it mattered little that, or why he had come so far north.

Her name, we asked.

Ah, her maiden name was one that in past times had struck terror to the foes of liberty; she would rather not mention it. Her father, even, had considered it wise to drop it, and had adopted her surname, her married name, the name of her husband, that is.

What, had he taken an English name?

No, not an English name; her husband had been naturalized as an Italian, had changed his name for reasons—they did not signify; and he was known as Giorgio Vianero, she was Lucia.

Of course we went in and spoke to the old farmer-like man, who, partially paralyzed, always sat by the window of his neat little house. He received us with the grace of a prince, regretted that his infirmities prevented him from doing the honors of the neighborhood, so beautiful as it was.

Naturally we looked in upon him more than once, but still it was his grandchild that was the attraction; my wife declaring that Paolo was the veriest darling she had ever seen, that he reminded her of our youngest, and that she should like to carry him off, probably because we had not enough of our own.

Now, she was a woman not given to morbid fancies, thoroughly healthy, with plenty of common sense. So I was a little surprised at this extravagant admiration, and to hear her say that the child bore any resemblance to ours. I could see none; but it was "her holiday," and she was not to be crossed.

"Well, if I was surprised at this, judge how much more so I was when she suddenly one morning announced her wish to return home.

"We have not been away three weeks," I mildly protested.

"No," she said; "but I have got a strange longing to see the children; I can't bear to be away from them any longer. I never have been away from them two days, much less two weeks, before, and can't bear it; I must go back."

"And leave thus suddenly your pretty little protege on the hill up there?" I ventured to say.

"Yes," she answered, "that is the reason, that is what has made me wish to go. I mean the right of that mother's love for her child makes me envious; I want to be with my own."

What could I say? It was her holiday, to do as she pleased with; if she pleased to cut it short she must.

"We will be off to-night, love," I said; but inwardly I was grieved, saddened, not only by the disappointment, but because, seeing that we had excellent accounts from home, this strange freak had something morbid in it, unlike her. Yet there was no appeal, and I began making arrangements for our departure.

"You will go up and say good-bye to the little chap, your friend?" I asked.

"Certainly," she answered; "you will come with me, won't you?"

"We will go at once," I said. I was the slave, I had nothing to do but to obey.

It was a wild and gusty day for August, and the landscape looked less inviting than usual, as we ascended the zigzag path leading to the sanctuary a little above which on the hill-side lay the home of our new friends. At one of the angles near the top of this zigzag the path passed perilously close to a steep precipice, which for some distance formed one bank of a mountain stream as it came tearing down over a rocky bed. This spot was a great height from the level of the lake, and the precipice itself just there was some forty feet above the river. A few rough bushes made a feeble parapet on the broken ground at the actual edge, but beyond these there was a sheer down wall of rock. As we reached this corner we saw fluttering in the wind what looked at first like a handkerchief hanging from one of the bushes, the garment of a child who was standing at the very verge of the chasm.

"How dangerous!" exclaimed my wife. "Who can have left a child in such a place."

It was a solitary walk this, especially at midday, and we had not met a creature since we cleared the outskirts of the town, except an old monk toddling down upon some mundane errand.

"Ah!" she cried, as we got still nearer, "why it is—yes, I declare—why, it is dear little Paolo himself. Good gracious, he has strayed away down here alone to look for blackberries, no doubt;" and as she spoke she rushed forward, and seizing the child by the skirt drew it back from the perilous edge over which it was craning. As I came up we both saw that the little creature was crying bitterly, and he immediately began pointing down toward the stream, and lisping out, "Mia madre, mia madre!"

I bent over and looked down in the direction the little one was pointing, and to my dismay among the rocks at the verge of the river beheld, lying prostrate 30 feet below, the motionless form of the mother.

Then ensued a scence which I will not dwell upon. I flew up the sanctuary for assistance. My wife, clasping the little one in her arms, hastened down to the place where it was just possible by a very rough scramble to get round to the bed of the river. Here I and those whom I had brought with me, presently joined her, and we made our way to the luckless woman. She was not dead, but was quite insensible, and after infinite trouble and care we managed to carry her up to her home, my wife with Paolo in her arms preceding us, and breaking the sad news to the father.

The only sort of medical aid obtainable in that primitive place came from the sanctuary, and soon an old monk to whom the natives all seemed to defer, was in attendance, and after a careful examination of the patient, pronounced that by a great mercy no bones were broken, but that the poor woman was suffering from concussion of the brain, and that some weeks might elapse before she would be about again.

"Do you still hold to your determination of returning home?" I said to my wife, when the excitement and the sorrow which this catastrophe had caused were a little abated; for I own I was selfish enough to hope that out of this evil good might come in the shape of making her prolong her holiday. The hope was realized.

"No," she answered; "perhaps I can be of some use here; I will not go back yet. This little one will want a mother's care now; I will be that mother, for I love him more than ever, and I wish more than ever that he belonged to me."

I need hardly say that under other circumstances I should have entirely objected to her assuming such maternal responsibilities; that I should have pointed out that it was no duty of hers, a well-born lady, in this fashion to look after the offspring of an unknown peasant woman, and that there were plenty of neighbors willing and ready to undertake the task, and who were really the proper people, etc.

But what could I do? Was it not "her holiday?" and had I not promised a hundred times to conform to her every wish, whim or caprice?—because I thought she had none, and I never expected to be put to this kind of test, for had I not married a sensible woman? I was puzzled, but I could not conform, saying to myself, "They are strange creatures, women; one never knows them—no, not after ten years of the closest intimacy."

So we stayed on; she devoting the greater part of her time to attendance upon the sick woman (who still lay unconscious) and her child, whose lisping and imperfect words had told us too plainly that it was while stretching over the edge of the precipice to gather blackberries for him, that his mother had lost her footing and fallen headlong down. My wife would spend hours by the bedside. I ventured to remonstrate, and go a severe snubbing for my pains.

One evening, about a week after the catastrophe, while I was waiting for her at a spot hard by the sanctuary where we often sat, she came up to me in the most excited frame of mind. I was really alarmed; I had never seen her equable temperament so disturbed.

"O, Walter," she exclaimed, "I have just come from the poor woman, and I have had such a shock. She has regained consciousness, but not her senses, which the good *frate*, who watches her always, tells me frequently happens in such cases."

"But what of that? why should it excite you so?" I asked, quite mystified at my wife's words.

"Ah, I don't know; I cannot tell you; my hopes, my beliefs, have hardly taken form yet; only come quickly with me up to the house. O, Walter, it is all so wonderful! Come, let us get on faster; I want so to get back that you and I both may listen to Lucia Vianero's broken words, prove their meaning, and so clear up a doubt that—"

"What do you mean?" I cried. "What can she have said to you?" and I inwardly thought, "O that I had never consented to 'her holiday!'"

"I will tell you, if you will only hurry on as fast as you can. Signs of animation set in about an hour ago, and the first words were, 'Paolo, Paolino.' I held the boy up to her, but she took no heed of him, and went on murmuring another name over and over again so often that I felt quite mysteriously affected. It was—" But here reaching the door of the chalet, my wife hurried me to the bedside.

The old monk held up a warning finger as we entered: we hardly dared to draw a breath as we listened to Lucia's low, unconscious tones.

"Mia vita, Giorgio mio," she was saying, in Italian, like one who talks in a dream; "never tell ot our marriage; they will not love me; they will neglect me. Hide it, and the little one too; do not let them see him; they would break his heart with coldness; they would not even own him. Yes, perhaps your sister might, for she loved you, Giorgio mio; you have told me so. She felt for you and wept for you, and knew why you went away and came to live in the midst of sunny skies and beautiful pictures. Ah, well, you can tell her if you like; she would love Paolino for your sake. Look at him, Giorgio. Kiss him!"

Here she seemed once more to lapse into unconsciousness, and the good frate said:

Ah, poor Lucia, her mind wanders back to her marriage, and mingling past and present, she speaks of what never was; the father never saw the child."

"Did you know her husband, then?" inquired my wife in Italian.

The frate shook his head; "Only the circumstances of the marriage."

"Tell me what were they?" she exclaimed clasping her hands as in agony of excitement.

"Simple, very simple," said the holy man, quite unmoved, and shrugging his ample shoulders; "a young Englishman, an artist, living in Florence, and who had made Italy the land of his adoption, and who took an Italian name, fell in love with Lucia, who was his model, and married her; not an unusual occurrence among your countrymen, I believe," he added, turning to me.

I was bewildered; did not know in the least what to make of all this, and I have no doubt I looked as stupidly helpless as I felt.

"And then?" eagerly inquired my wife, seizing the frate's arm, and looking into his face, after casting a glance of unutterable scorn upon me.

"He made a little home for her, and everything promised wel! for their happiness, when he was taken suddenly ill, broke a blood vessel, and died in Lucia's arms."

"Do you know what his English name was?"

"What can you possibly want to know that for?" I interposed in English, quite in the dark at to what she was driving at.

"O, Walter, Walter, how stupid you are," she answered, throwing more and more contempt into her words and manner; "does nothing suggest itself to you? Can't you guess what I am thinking of? Tell me' ane said, again repeating her question in Italian, and turning to the monk, "tell me the Engilsh name of Lucia's husband; do you know what it was?"

"Si, Signora, si; but I cannot reveal it; it was made known to me under the seal of confession."

Seeing that she was again about to urge the frate to grant her request, I entreated her to be silent, and to look after little Paolo, who was climbing up to his mother and trying to make her play with him.

"Ah!" she then exclaimed, "dear little fellow; do look at him, Walter, and think of his father's assumed Italian name—Vianero, think what it's English equivalent means."

More bewildered than ever, I obeyed her command, and began to think, while she, once more in Italian, earnestly entreated the frate to tell her the name.

"For mercy sake, let me know," she said. "I am not asking out of idle curiosity, but only that love and service may be rendered to the memory of the dead. I feel that I am on the point of a discovery; tell me, am I not right in believing that his name was George Blackway?"

The old monk started at these words, and so did I; for this was the name of my wife's only brother, whose death was the piece of family sorrow referred to at starting.

A bit of a scapegrace, with a strong turn for art, and never understood by his father, he had gone to Rome years ago—long before I knew the family—had expatriated himself, and, with the little competence he possessed, had entirely withdrawn himself from all his early associations. His sister alone at long intervals had tidings of him, and at length we heard, but not till long after the event that he had died in Florence suddenly. There was a rumor that he had married under an assumed name, had been naturalized as an Italian, but nothing very definite ever came to light.

And now, what was happening? Why, that we had come upon a trace of his latter days, and had found in this obscure corner of the world the pretty Italian woman he had married.

"Yes," exclaimed my wife, turning with an air of triumph to me; "and perhaps, Walter, you can now understand what it was that drew me from the first toward this woman and child, and why the little creature has inspired me with such a deep affection. It was the mysterious and subtle instinct of kinship, of blood relationship, for this baby-boy is may brother's child;" and with the words she seized the little fellow, clasped him to her bosom, and wept copiously.

The matter was clear to me now at last; but who on earth could have expected such a denouement, or that she should have been led to the only spot where she could have gained any tidings of her brother?

And yet so it was, and this discovery was the result of "her holiday," that treat which I had designed "all for her." Of course, we had an addition to our family; of course the contract for her holiday would not have been completed if I had interposed any views of mine, and had prevented her carrying off in the end the young semi-Italian scaramouch to add to our own collection.

However, I am bound to say I believe she might have pressed this point had not it been for the fatal effect of the accident, which, after all, terminated in Lucia's death, and consequently for the child having thus, as it were, fallen to our charge as his natural guardians. It was all very sad and miserable, the end of our time at Locarno involving numerous complications with the local law. We were detained there till the end of October, for the old *padrone* departed this life soon after her daughter, and we had some difficulty in proving our right to the child.

Our right to the child! Humph! Truly! women are wonderful beings; and she had instinctively discovered this right, had discovered it through that mysterious, delicate, subtile intuition to which our masculine and grosser natures are entirely strangers. She was quite correct from the first. Little Paolo has grown up marvelously like his youngest cousin; even I can see it now.—*London Society.*

The Marquis of Lorne.

The appointment of the Marquis of Lorne to succeed Earl Dufferin as Governor-General of our Canadian neighbors is for several reasons, an interesting event. His high rank, the fact of his marriage with a daughter of the Queen of England, his youth, and his fine talents, make his selection for the high post he is about to assume a peculiarly brilliant one.

The Marquis of Lorne is the eldest son of the Duke of Argyll, one of the greatest and most powerful Scottish nobles, whose family has long been eminent in statesmanship and military fame. The Duke himself has for many years held a conspicuous place in England as a Liberal leader, and has held some of the highest cabinet offices.

Several years ago the Marquis of Lorne, then a handsome young man, who had just become a member of the House of Commons, was attracted by the beauty and grace of the Princess Louise, the Queen's fourth daughter. She was, herself, the only child of Victoria who showed marked talent, having in her girlhood become very skillful as a sculptress and artist.

The Marquis's attachment was returned by the Princess; but no member of the English royal family for two centuries had ever married any one not of royal blood. Still, the Queen at last assented to the union of Louise with her lover, and great was the sensation among the precedent-loving English when the engagement was made public.

His marriage, however, while it gave him the wife of his choice, cut off from the young Marquis the prospect of an eminent political career at home. It would not do for one closely connected with the royal family to enter actively into political contests, to become the chief of a party, or to aspire to a seat in the cabinet, for the English people are very jealous of royal interference, and the Marquis's elevation, no matter how much deserved, would give rise to suspicions of undue royal influence.

In another respect, the Marquis's union with a princess was a disadvantage to him. By it, he seemed lifted, socially, above the noble rank in which he was born; and yet, not being of the royal blood, he was not admitted to an equality with his wife's family. He attended her everywhere, but in all royal gatherings was obliged to separate from her, and to take his place at table, or on any public occasion, among persons of his own degree.

By his appointment to rule over the province of Canada, the Marquis will escape both these unpleasant results of his marriage. An active and useful political career is opened to him, and he will have the chance of bringing his talents into full play in governing the Canadian subjects of his mother-in-law. As Governor-General, too, he will be the chief social personage in the province, and will, for the first time, be at least the social equal of his wife.

Both the Marquis and the Princess are well fitted to adorn the sphere which the Earl of Beaconsfield has chosen them to fill. He is a young man of refinement, correct habits, culture and taste, and has shown marked literary talent in writing several books, among them a versification of the Psalms, and a volume of travels called "A Trip to the Tropics, and Home through America." Now, in his thirty-third year, he is a handsome and attractive man, with winning manners and fine social qualities.

The Canadians will be proud to see a daughter of the Queen presiding over the Governor-General's household and dispensing its hospitalities.

By making this appointment, therefore, the English Prime Minister has made a brilliant stroke of policy. The Canadians are pleased and flattered, and are likely to be more loyal than ever to the British crown. The Queen is gratified by her daughter's new position. The Duke of Argyll must be grateful for an event which will give his promising son scope for his abilities, and frees him from the discomforts he suffered at home; while the English people see in the appointment a measure strengthening the bond of union between them and their most important American dependency.

Engagement of Louis Napoleon.

The story goes that the engagement of Princess Thyra to Prince Louis Napoleon was materially helped by the consideration that the ex-Empress Eugenie is very rich, her fortune being estimated at $7,000,000 to $8,000,000. Christian IX. of Denmark has been one of the poorest of sovereigns, especially since his little Kingdom has been reduced and fleeced by Prussia, and it becomes him therefore, to look out for good matches for his children. He, or rather his wife, Queen Louise, reputed to be one of the adroitest match-makers in Europe, has looked out vigilantly and to the purpose. She has certainly married off her family to advantage. Her eldest son is the husband of Louise, daughter of Charles XV. King of Sweden and Norway. Her second son is George, King, of Greece, husband of Olga, Grand Duchess of Russia. Her third son, Prince Waldemar, is not yet 20, and a celibate only by reason of his youth. His mamma has a keen eye, it is said to his connubial interests, and he can trust to her management with perfect faith in her power of accomplishment. The eldest daughter, Alexandra, everybody knows, is the Princess of Wales, and the second daughter, Dagmar, is the wife of the Czarowitch, so that they will be, if they live, Queen of England and Empress of Russia. The sole child now to dispose of nuptially is Prince Waldemar. The Copenhagen gossips say that Queen Louise is very sorry she has not another daughter for the just-widowed King of Spain, and that she regrets Waldemar is not a girl.

☞When the dusk of evening had come on, and not a sound disturbed the sacred stillness of the place; when the bright moon poured in her light on tomb and monument, on pillar, wall and arch, and most of all, it seemed to them, upon her quiet grave; in that calm time, all outward things and inward thoughts teem with the assurance of immortality, and worldly hopes and fears are humbled in the dust before them, then, with tranquil and submissive hearts, they turned away and left the child with God.

☞Charlie Ross' father compares his quest for his lost boy to a search in a deep, dark abyss by the light of a taper, where he hears now and then a little voice in the darkness crying, "This way, papa, here I am;" and when he goes in the direction of the sound, he finds that it is only the voice of his own hopes and the whispering of his own heart.

Ascending Mount Ætna.

Ætna is three zoned. We had driven through the first, the Cultivats, with its vines and fruits; we had entered the second the Boscosa, which runs up to a height of 7,000 feet, a region of scattering woods—oak, chestnut, beach, birch and perennial pine. Our road dwindled into a trail; the trail wound in and out among ragged wave of lava, threatened the overshadowing groves, dipped into hollow gorges on the brink of which our suspicious beasts pranced and trembled, climbed slippery hills that glistened in the brilliant moonlight, and sometimes lost itself altogether on the wrong side of stumbling blocks that seemed to start suddenly under foot, only to frighten us out of our saddles. "What is the attitude?" asked some one of the party, with chattering teeth. "Four thousand two hundred and sixteen feet," was the reply. We built a fire on the spot, warmed the coffee, toasted the bread and wished the night was over and gone. Again in the saddle, and this time each fellow of twice his original bulk, for we had swaddled ourselves and each other in voluminous blankets.

Our noses began to freeze before we reached the Casa Inglese, where we were to take our final rest. We had come out of the forest belt. Ribbons of cloud festoone the mountain under our feet. The beasts reeled and stumbled and gasped for breath as we made a final struggle and drew rein at the open door of a windowless stone hovel away up among the stars. "What does the draw?" said a nautical party. "Nine thousand six hundred and fifty-two feet." With what we all sat upon the ground, and the leathern coated flask was passed from mouth to mouth in a silence that was unbroken. Giuseppe kindled a little fire and a great smoke on a flat stone in the corner of the room. Nature was craving food and drink and sleep; we were thoroughly chilled and utterly miserable. Six bunks as hard as boards could make them, filled one side of the apartment. There we stretched ourselves, aster a meagre repast, and slept a half sleep until Giusepge called us at daybreak to go forth and "do the regular sunrise." We went, rolled to the eyes in blankets.

We breakfasted after that and began to grow warm, and were as hot as possible before we got to the top of the 1,200-foot cone, that began at our house and went up to the jumping-off place. Of course we slipped and sprawled and lost our wind and our temper, and got bored and tired out before we came to the soft, spongy warm lip of the crater. The crater was round at the top, funnel-shaped, yellowish or reddish with stains of sulphur, and smoky and smelly. A big stone started at the top of it went tumbling down its steep sides until it was ground into powder. Ominous thunders sometimes startled us, yet you could have seen with half an eye that we were not afraid. I never yet saw any one who was—so long as he stood on the brink of destruction. The nervous fear comes in anticipation, or with the memory of some risk foolishly run. There was sure all about us, up yonder the Italian coast, Malta in the distance, and the whole Island of Sicily, looking brown and bare at that altitude. Down we came, helter-skelter, torrents of loose rocks at our heels, many of which we were glad to dodge, for they were as big as an armful. Back again over the dull, hard trail to Nicolosi, growing more and more weary and less patient every hour. We dropped into cloud banks and came out below them into sunshine that soon became oppressively warm. As late as the sixteenth century Ætna was clothed to the summit with forests. Pindar describes an eruption previous to 470, and eighty of those lava flows fall within the limits of history, beginning as early as 396 B. C. In 1603 an eruption was accompanied by a fearful earthquake, which destroyed forty towns and nearly one hundred thousand lives. Through all these convulsions of nature the Torre del Filosofo has stood its ground, nearly ten thousand feet up the breast of the mountain. Tradition calls this Roman the observatory of Empedocles, he who sought a voluntary death in the crater. Back of Catania, covered with dust and glory, we are little lions, inasmuch as we have been to the top of the highest mountain in Italy and the highest volcano in Europe.

The Shakers.

That very singular body of persons commonly known as Shakers,—their proper name is the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing—is said to have materially increased since 1870, and to number now nearly 12,000. This is remarkable, inasmuch as, believing and rigidly adhering to celibacy, their recruits must be won only by external accretion. They have eighteen separate settlements (the sect is entirely confined to the United States,) of which there are two in Maine, two in New Hampshire, four in Massachusetts, one in Connecticut, three in New York, four in Ohio, and two in Kentucky. They now believe the Kingdom of Heaven has been established, that Christ has come upon earth a second time in the form of Mother Ann (Ann Lee, an English woman, born in Manchester, was the founder of the sect, having emigrated thence with a small band of disciples shortly before the Revolutionary War;) and that the personal reign of Christ has been restored. They believe also that the new dispensation has begun; that Adam's sin has been atoned; that man has been delivered from all errors except his own; that the curse has been removed from labor, and that the earth and all it contains shall be redeemed. This would seem to be a comfortable sort of creed, and they hold it most sincerely. To their peculiar mind there is no death, what appears to be death being merely a change of form, a transfiguration, which does not conceal them from the purified eyes of the saints. They look for no resurrection, nor have they any faith in heaven beyond what they call "living in union," which is their present state of existence. Upon entering into union, they think that they leave behind all earthly relationship and interests, just as if they had been separated from these by death. Those who have "passed out of sight," as they phrase it, are still in union; and the Shakers have perfect faith that they dwell in daily communion with spirits of the departed. Indeed, they profess to be more familiar with the dead than with the living. Labor is, in their eyes, more than noble, it is sacred, a sacerdotal function, especially when employed upon the soil in adding to its bruindance or beauty. They delight with their faith in the second appearance of Christ in the form of a woman, they believe there is a feminine as well as a masculine essence in the Godhead, a motherhood not less than fatherhood of Deity, which would seem to be a sort of compromise with the Roman Catholic doctrine. The society is mainly increased by girls and young men; but married couples likewise join it, becoming then as brothers and sisters. They are almost invariably noted for virtue, conscientiousness, health, prosperity and contentment. They are the sole people on this Continent, if not on the face of the globe, who for more than seventy years have lived together harmoniously on the fundamental principle of community of property.—*New York Times.*

Jupiter.

Zeus, or Jupiter, while yet a youth, drove with the assistance of his brothers and sister, his father Kronos from the throne, overpowered the Titians and Giants, and thereby established his right to rule forever. Proceeding next to share the government of the world with his brothers as it should fall out by casting lots, he obtained for himself Olympus, or heaven, along with a supremacy over all things that existed. To his brother Poseidon fell the management of the sea, and to Hades that of the under world. The earth remained to the three, although here also the other two admitted the superior authority of Zeus, who, as ancient myths say, ruled in all the three provinces of the world, heaven, earth and under world. He gave good or ill, even suffering and chastisement, as it pleased him. Yet he only knew what was best, and all that he did was meant to be so. Therefore was he always invoked as a saviour in distress. At the same time he would not change the order of the universe, which, indeed, it was his duty to protect, and therefore he was unable to alter fate.—*Murray's Manual of Mythology.*

☞Of all the nations of antiquity, the Egyptians were most noted for their appreciation of the useful qualities of the cat, whose protection was indispensable against the multitude of rats and mice with which the country was infested. It accompanied them in their fowling expeditions; it was a capital offence to kill one; and when a cat did die, it was embalmed and buried at Babistis—the city sacred to the moon—of which divinity the cat was considered a symbol.

☞We do not know from what evils we have been preserved, for dazzling prospects do not always bring the cheer and comfort we expect, and promise of future good often results in disappointment and sorrow. There are blessings and privileges in every life; let us be thankful for all those which fall to our lot.

☞Condemn no man for not thinking as you think. Let every one enjoy the full and free liberty of thinking for himself. Abhor every approach, in any kind or degree, to the spirit of persecution.

Young Folks' Column.

A Triumph.

Little Roger up the long slope rushing
Through the rustling corn,
Showers of dew-drops from the broad leaves brushing
In the early morn,

At his sturdy little shoulder bearing
For a banner gay,
Stem of fir with one long shaving flaring
In the wind away!

Up he goes, the summer sunshine flushing
Q'er him in his race,
Sweeter dawn of rosy childhood blushing
On his radiant face.

If he can but set his standard glorious
On the hill top low,
Ere the sun climbs the clear sky victorious,
All the world aglow!

So he presses on with childish ardor,
Almost at the top!
Hasten, Roger! Does the way grow harder?
Wherefore do you stop?

From below the cornstalks tall and slender
Comes a plaintive cry—
Turns he for an instant from the splendor
Of the crimson sky,

Wavers, then goes flying toward the hollow,
Calling loud and clear:
"Coming, Jenny! Oh, why did you follow?
Don't you cry, my dear!"

Small Janet sits weeping 'mid the daisies;
"Little sister sweet,
Must you follow Roger?" Then he raises
Baby on her feet.

Guides her tiny steps with kindness tender,
Cheerfully and gay,
All his courage and his strength would lend her
Up the uneven way,

Till they front the blazing East together;
But the sun has rolled
Up the sky in the summer weather,
Flooding them with gold.

All forgotten is the boy's ambition,
Low the standard lies,
Still they stand, and gaze—a sweeter vision
Ne'er met mortal eyes.

That was splendid, Roger, that was glorious,
Thus to help the weak;
Better than to plant your flag victorious
On earth's highest peak!

—*Cecilia Thaxter, in St. Nicholas.*

Self-Denial.

"I should not like to live in a house cut bias, like this," said little Miss Flippant to her mamma. They were standing in the door of a room in which the sides were not parallel. One sees such houses where the streets do not cross at right angles.

But little Miss Flippant knew very little of life except as she saw in homes of wealth. The "bias cut," as she called the acute-angled room was a small matter of discomfort compared to the evils of sickness, poverty and sin to which her mamma called her attention.

She saw old Betty Baker, poor and blind, who sat alone in the corner day after day, with only the care which a wild, heedless grandchild choose to give her. She saw in another room lame Mrs. Jackson with three little children whom she supported by her needle; in another room Tom Green, dying of consumption, and left alone until his wife should return home from her day's labor with the food she had thus earned. In the cellar she saw an intemperate father and mother sleeping off the fumes of liquor, and in the attic the little children of Mrs. Hill, watching for their mother to come with the wood she had earned money to buy, so that they might get their cold fingers warmed.

When she now saw how much misery and want all these endured, she realized, as she had never done before, what blessings she had enjoyed, and that she had not been thankful for them. She now felt as if she wanted to help those whom she saw so wretched.

"What can I do, mamma?" she asked; "will you give me some money for the poor little children of Mrs. Hill?"

"But that will be my gift, not yours," said mamma. Then the child stood silently thinking, and after a while she said:—

"The dolly, mamma; the beautiful dolly, with the trunk full of clothes that you promised me for my Christmas, how much was it to cost?"

"Fifteen dollars," replied mamma.

"I will do without my doll," said Miss Flippant, "and that will provide during the winter months for one of Mrs. Hill's children."

The little girl denied herself the great pleasure she had anticipated in owning the beautitul dolly, and she herself completed the arrangements for the transfer of the cold and hungry children to nursery of the "Home for Destitute Children."

During that winter Miss Flippant often called to see her little beneficiary, and whenever she entered the warm and cheerful nursery of the Home, and saw how much more comfortable the little child was there than it had been locked up in the cold room when its mother was looking for work, she almost felt happier than she could have been made by possession of the beautiful doll.

You may perhaps think that I am now going to tell you that her mother or grandmother, as a reward of merit, gave this generous little girl, when Christmas came, a doll even more beautiful than that which she had resigned to be use of charity.

No, not so. The mother wanted her little daughter to learn to deny herself for the sake of doing good to others,

Neither would little Miss Flippant herself have cared to be rewarded for doing good. She wanted her fifteen dollars to be a free gift, and not something she was paid for giving.

Do you know what is promised "to him that overcometh," in the book of Revelation? A new name.

We cannot understand exactly what is meant, but we know this much, that if we overcome our selfishness, and are willing to deny ourselves for the good of others, if we belong to the family of Christ, then as the children take the family names of their father, so we shall have this name.—*Appeal.*

The Duke of Wellington.

It was the habit of the Duke of Wellington to remain to take the sacrament in the church with the other communicants, however humble their lot in life, and however meanly they were dressed. On one occasion a poor decrepid old man, who had been sitting on the opposite side to the Duke happened to arrive at the communion table at the same moment at which Wellington came up. A pew-opener who was present seemed to be shocked at the thought of a poor villager taking the sacrament at the same time as the great Duke, and so he hurriedly advanced to tell him to draw back. He touched the old man on the shoulder, and whispered:—

"Do you not see the Duke? Draw back directly until he has received the bread and wine."

The villager in great alarm would have instantly retreated, but the Duke, who had witnessed the confusion into which he had been thrown, immediately came to the rescue. Clasping the old man's hand to prevent his rising from his kneeling position, he gently said:—

"Do not move; we are all equals here."
—*Little Sower.*

Alfred the Great.

This King, who died in the year 900, was of a most amiable disposition and of genuine piety. During his retreat at Athelney, in Somersesthire, after his defeat by the Danes, a beggar came to his little castle and requested alms. His Queen informed Alfred that they had but one small loaf remaining, which was insufficient for themselves and their friends, who were gone in search of food, though with little hope of success. The King replied, "Give the poor Christian one-half of the loaf. He that could feed five thousand men with five loaves and two fishes, can certainly make the half loaf suffice for more than our necessity." The poor man was accordingly relieved, and Alfred's people shortly after returned with a store of fresh provisions.—*Young Folk's World.*

Welcome Home.

In the mountains of Tyrol, it is the custom of the women and children to come out when it is bed-time, sing their national songs till they hear their husband, fathers and brothers answer them from the hills on their return home. On the shores of the Adriatic such a custom prevails. There the wives of the fishermen come down about sunset, and singing the first stanzas, they will listen awhile for an answering melody from off the water, and continve to sing and listen till the well-known voice comes borne on the waters, telling that the loved one is almost home. How sweet to the weary fisherman, as the shadows gather around him, must be the songs of the dear loved ones at home, that sing to cheer him; and how they strengthen and tighten the links that bind those humble dwellers by the sea.

Do Things in Time.

Only two or three inches; that was all. If the switchman had moved the track only that little distance, all would have been right. But he forgot, and the train that was passing the station ran furiously into the heavy freight cars, and dashed itself to pieces.

"What was the cause?" everybody asked when the news of the great acident spread about town.

"Oh, a switch was out of place," was the answer. "The switchman was careless, perhaps he was drunk."

How true it is, as Solomon said, "There is a time for everything." If we do not attend to it in time, it is just as bad as not to do it at all.

Woman's Department.

For the Woman's Department.

Conversation of Women.

I noticed an article in a previous number of your paper, on women's conversational powers. It advanced the idea of their excelling those of men. While I acknowledge the truth of those sentiments, they bring to my mind the question, 'Do women make the best use of their gift?' Our talents may be of the highest order, and yet employed in the very lowest purposes. It has not only been said that women's powers of conversation excel those of men, but also their inclination to gossip. The accusation may be just, and it may not be; I cannot say. Be that as it may, the reputation of a tattler is a reputation which none of us care to own, so let us set ourselves at work, and make a thorough self examination, watch our lives closely, and root out every symptom of no ruinous a practice,—the practice of speaking evil of everybody, and believing all the evil we hear, and telling everybody's business, and minding everybody's else business but our own. Is it not a ruinous practice? Does it not ruin our own purity of heart—this constant exaggeration of wonderful tid-bits of gossip and scandal? We all know there is more or less of such talk in almost every neighborhood. It may be the men do all the gossiping, but it seems hardly probable, for these farmers are too much taken up with crops, stock and farm experiments to think of much of anything else. So I'm afraid some of the good sisters are guilty. Anyway, there is no harm in thinking about it. I do not wish to accuse any one, but I do wish that the eyes of our sex may be wide open, and their hearts ready to avoid so evil a practice if it be amongst us.

Words have their influence; and every woman as it were, has, in some degree, the reputation of the world in her hands. It has already been seen that women have superior power in conversation. Are her powers rightly used? Look for instance, at our little social gatherings. What is talked about? Does she benefit her hearers by enlightened conversation on some elevating subject? Does she add to their enjoyment by the recital of some innocent tale of mirth? Are her words such as should proceed from the mouth of one whose heart is filled with charity and love for all? or does she join in scandalous talk, ready to believe that which no one is sure to be true; tearing someone's reputation to pieces, by way of bringing up all the mistakes of life, saying not a word of one good deed? Which is it with us, sisters? I wish every woman could say, she never spoke of a friend's failings, (or an enemy's if she is so unfortunate as to have one,) when it was possible to avoid it, never believed a scandalous story till she herself had witnessed the truth, and that she did by all as she would be done by. There would be more good in the world. Life would be sweeter and pleasanter, and there would be less unhappiness. Until this nuisance, this vile, unchristlike practice of gossiping is done away with, the unity and harmony of society can never be complete. Charity is one of the greatest virtues, and a pure heart and truthful tongue are surely pleasing to our Master as well as universally admired by the world around. What does Carlyle, our Scotch essayist say of gossip? Does he call it harmless? No! read his warning: "Thinkest thou that because no one is near with parchment and black lead to note thy jargon, it therefore dies and is harmless? Nothing dies, nothing can die. No idlest word is forgotten, but is a seed cast into Time and grows through all Eternity! The Recording Angel, consider it well, is no fable, but the truest of truths; the paper tablets thou canst burn; of 'the iron leaf' there is no burning." Oh! let us fear idle words; let us shun the habit of gossiping or exaggerating though it be slight! Let the heart be filled with pure, noble thoughts, and high aspirations; let it possess the charity that covers a multitude of sins, and the lips will remain clean and pure. Every word proceeding from them will be good and true. They will speak a warning to the poor erring ones, perhaps by pity save them; they will raise those in despair, comfort those in trouble. Such a